

The Tabloid

**Suzanne Moore:** What is a whore?

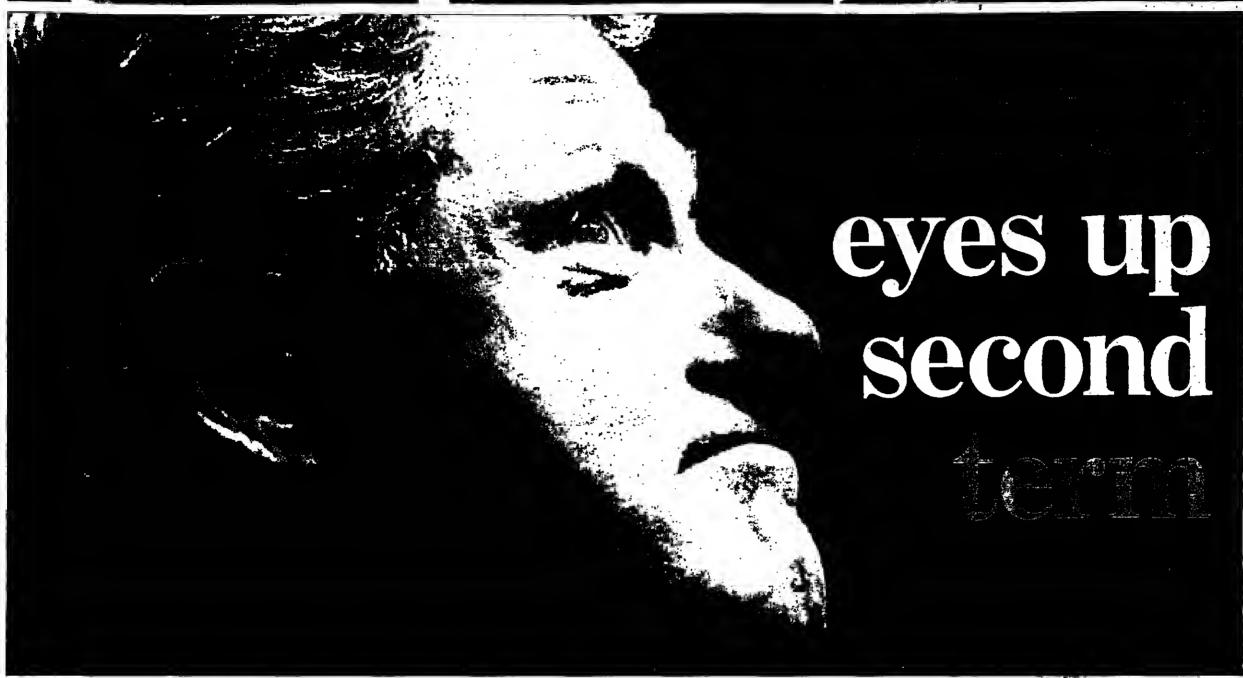


The Tabloid

**Bridget Jones:** Betrayed again



Polly Toynbee: Who needs defence?



Rupert Cornwell

Bill Clinton seemed on track yesterday to defeat his Republican challenger Bob Dole and win the US Presidential election, thus becoming the first De-Franklin ond successive term in the

White House. The last batch of election day opinion polls showed the 50-year-old President with a dougive him a handsome majority in the 535-member electoral college which technically decides

the outcome of the vote. Administration ethics and cut

whelming lead, the mood was euphoric on as the Presidential plane carried Mr Clinton back to Little Rock, Arkansas, in the early hours vesterday to cast his vote in what is the final election

An exhausted Mr Dole returned to his home town of Ruselection after 43 years in national politics. "It's uphill, but it can be done." he declared after easting his ballot, the final moment of a draining 10,500 ble-digit lead, enough if mile, 96-hour round-the-clock translated into actual votes to chase through 20 states for chase through 20 states for votes which wrapped up his campaign, "I feel a little neryous, I never voted for myself

before as President." Though a string of Democratic compaign finance scandals what placards at his final rallies have stirred tresh doubts about were proclaiming as "The Upset of the Century". One en-couraging sign however was a

# In Roosevelt's footsteps

poll showing Mr Dole had narwestern state without which no Republican has ever won the But a final-day Gallup poll showed Mr Clinton leading nationally by 52 per cent to 41 per cent, with 7 per cent supporting the Reform Party candidate

Ross Perot. Though the Texas hillionaire has hardly moved beyond single figures, a late surge in his support at the expense of Mr Clinton could hold the key to Mr Dole's hopes of capitalising on concerns about the President's character and securing an upset that would eclipse any in

rowed the gap in Ohio, a Mid- basted the White House over ethics and campaign finance, warning that Mr Clinton could verge of Watergate II and a con-stitutional crisis," Mr Perol declared as he went to vote in his home city of Dallas. "Why would you even think of voting for a President who violates the law, doesn't tell the truth and doesn't keep his promises?"

Lippo group has made large contributions to the Democratic party, had made more than a dozen visits to the White House over the past four years, during which he discussed US trade policy with Mr Clinton. Assuming a Clinton win, and

ministration, as officials con-

ceded that the Indonesian

### Inside: US Election Special

Taste for re-election, page 12 Cynicism wins, old warrior, page 13 Rupert Cornwell, page 16

embarrassment for the Ad- trol of Congress, this development further ensures that the Democrats' seamy campaign intense scrutiny in the months ahead. Indeed a host of unre- a "blank cheque" to Mr Clinton solved scandals and ethics issues are the darkest single cloud on

> But if there seemed little doubt over the outcome of the Presidential contest, the battle for control of Congress was set to run late into the night. Just before lunch, the Dow Jones index was 50 points up, reflecting Wall Street's growing belief that the Republicans would preserve their majority.

a second Clinton term.

three while defending four high-ly vulnerable southern seats, change is unlikely. The House of Representatives, where the Democrats must win a net 19 seats and 73 first-time Republican Congressmen are defending their seats, is still a that a public desire not to give and the Democrats will keep them in the majority. If so it

1930 that the party has kept con-trol for more than two years. Meanwhile the expected

would be the first time since

to White House officials, Mr Clinton's chief of staff Leon Panetta wants to step down. Among others not expected to serve in a second term are the Secretary of State, Warren Christopher, Attorney-General Janet Reno, and perhaps fense Secretary.

In the first results, announced just after midnight yesterday, the two New Hampshire hamlets of Dixville Notch and Hart's Location came in for Mr Dole, by 31 votes against 20 for Mr Clinton and five for Mr Perot. post-election changes at the US elections, pages 12 and 13 top of the Administration were How will Clinton fare? page 16

# But is the Comeback Kid in the FDR class?

probable partners



welt: Architect of the modern mocratic Party

ago, a second victory for Bill Clinton seemed inconceivable. Yet long before vesterday, it had already become inevitable. If, in addition to Mr Clinton's return to the White House, the Demograts win back control of Congress, then Mr Clinton's achievement will be doubly astonishing, matching that of

Franklin Delano Roosevelt. At first glance, that comparison looks feeble. After all, FDR was the architect not only of the modern Democratic Party but of the modern presidency as well. Seizing the op-portunity created by the Great Deers who hated the Republicans: white southerners who could not forgive them for winning the Civil War, and northern immigrants who saw them as a discredited, self-satisfied Protes-

progressive intellectuals. But that coalition has been falling apart since the Vietnam war and the civil rights revolution tore away great chunks of traditional Democratic support in the 1960s. The task for Mr Clinton was to hold on to the re-maining hastions of Democratic sup-port – among them blacks and other

minorities and a majority of women and attract as many other voters, and especially southern and western white males, as possible. That, to a pression, he forged an alliance between the two great blocks of votterm. By this test, Bill Clinton is far from puny. As a campaigner, Mr Clinton is in

FDR's class. As a politician, he has heen far less successful. But the diftant business elite, It was FDR's ference lies less in the two meo's tal-

He looks set to be remembered as the Comebuck Kid of all times. Two years to weld these im-

American politics together under the leadership of and the mood of the American people have changed. Party machinery has atrophied. Candidates campaign in the media and largely with paid adver-tisements. That costs money - hundreds of millions of dollars - and Republicans have more money than Democrats.

In any case, FDR wasn't truly the FDR of legend. His personal glamour and his political skill, not to mention the prestige he acquired later as the architect of victory, obscures the fact that the New Deal didn't really work. It was the war, not the National Recovery Act, that ended the Depression.

Nor was FDR in all respects the noble figure his admirers presented to the public. Like Mr Clinton, he had his sexual peccadilloes and his political skeletons. In those days the

press did not write about such things But Roosevelt was more than just a man who won elections. He saw that the president's strategic strength lies in the fact that he is the only leader all Americans vote for. He alone can reach out over the heads of politicians and interests alike, portraying himself as "the president of

all the people".

Americans in FDR's time were full of righteous anger and long-term optimism, full of dreams of building a more prosperous society at home and a safer world. Today they are at once wrapped in ideas of their own "exceptionalism" and full of selfdonbt, largely indifferent to the outside world, suspicious of government, yet determined not to lose its bene-fits. In his campaigns, Bill Clinton has shown a rare gift for articulating this mood of discontent. In a second term, he may surprise everyone by tak-ing radical action to assuage it.

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titustrated: Londintem Watch-RRP £1425 linc VAT).



### De Glanville to captain England

Phil de Glanville, 28, who cap-Bath, is to be England rugthens that his predecessor. ferenty Guscott for the one someone new to put his appouthe side," de Glanville Pages 24 and 28



### Tax U-turn to deprive fat cats

The Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, made a last minute Uturn and did not include capital gains tax cuts in last year's Budget because Cedric Brown, who was the chief executive of British Gas and Britain's most notorious "fat cat", would have made too much money from it. The proposed reduction in the rate of tax from Up in the pound to 24p would have gone towards honouring John Major's promise to abolish the tax, Mr Brown, who has retired. personified popular disapproval of "fat cats"





### Yeltsin fine after operation

Russian President Boris Yeltsin is in a critical 48-hour period after which his surgeons will gel a clearer of the success of the mutiple heart by-pass operation. He is on a respiratory machine following the seven-hour operation during which doctors stopped his heart for 68 minutes. Mr Yeltsin, 65, has temporarily transferred power to the Prime Minister, Viktor Chernomyrdin. A medical bulletin said: "Everything was fine, great. He is OK." Mr Yeltsin was confident he would be back | unless 60 children were ex-Page 9 | pelicd. to work soon.

### Ridings head expels 12 pupils

The new headmaster of the troubled Ridings School in Halifax, closed because of assaults on teachers by pupils, expelled 12 students and temporarily excluded 23. Peter Clark was appointed acting head last week. His action came as the school's governors met to discuss an inspection report which is expected to brand the school a failure. His actions are expectcd to go some way towards meeting the deamnds of teachers who said they would strike

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It had been a pleasant lunch, fol-lowed by a brisk walk, and I en-tered the Chamber just as the bishop, who conducts daily prayers, was leaving (I bet he's a supporter of New Labour). So I fell into a reverie up in the gallery. Below me party jibes were exchanged gently across the Chamber, above me - beyond the skylight - swallows were skimming through the bright autumn air.

And suddenly, like rap music played on a monster hi-fi al 3am in a suburban mews, a bellowing voice woke the slumbering journalists with a jolt, and had the clerks pulling their wigs over their ears.

ONLY WE HAVE GIVEN THE PLEDGE TO IN- at the top of his voice, I realised



ING YEAR BY YEAR BY YEAR BY YEAR!, roared the Health Secretary, Stephen Dor-

Who, I wondered, was he yelling at? What had annoyed him so badly? Gradually, as Mr Dorrell answered all questions that he was not angry, but that twice). This was Dorrell's reply, the volume control on his lar-

Breakfast in the Dorrell household must be a trial, with the kids in ear-muffs, all the giassware hidden, and Dad asking whether there is "ANY

MORE TOAST!"
From the Labour from bench lessa Jowell, dressed in the New Labour uniform of shortbob and twin-set (powder-blue, for those of you wondering what the Follett Girls are wearing this autumn), asked a fairenough question about the use "finished consultant

Dorrell's pledge (which orig-inated with the Prime Minister at the party conference) is thus episodes" as a measure of pa-tient treatment (the same padesigned specifically to embartient released too early from So it was tactically risky for

BY YEAR!"

would be lost.

shouted at a zillion decibels:

SHE STILL REFUSES TO

GIVE THE PLEDGE THAT

SHE WILL INCREASE

SPENDING YEAR BY YEAR BY YEAR BY YEAR

Of course she does. If she

committed herself to spending

one penny extra on com-plas-

ters, it would be the end of

Labour's attempt to portray it-

self as the prudent party; the sky would fall on their heads and all

Questions later on. But he did. surgery, and the PM had given The NHS is in a state of crisis", what was the Government

Put tons and tons of money into it, unlike you lot, said Mr Major. No, you should cut bureaucracy and make it more efficient, said Mr Blair, in a total role reversal. But the Socialist Health Association says that would be wrong, the Prime

going to do about it?

Perhaps it was the oddness of this exchange that set up a re-markable Majorism, also on health. Paddy (who has stared death in the face, and is not afraid of putting taxes up) had

The £200 plastic front door that

cost the taxpayer £10,000

Minister replied surrealistical-

Tony Blair to raise the issue of health during Prime Minister's ridors and half-completed brain a weary "wait-for-the-budget" answer, ending with "I have nothing further to say". Then, suddenly adding in a loud highpitched voice (left over from Stephen Dorrell, perhaps), "EXCEPT THIS!"

"This" was the pledge to in-crease health spending year af-ter year after year etc. "You don't have to look in the mir-ror". Mr Major said emphatically, "when you can look at the record".

No. I suppose not. Why wor-ry about what you look like now, when you can read about what you looked like a long time ago?

area to change her £200 plastie

door, it emerged yesterday. Patricia Harman, 53, has

fought for two years to retain a wood-effect UPVC four-pan-elled door, installed at her mid-

terraced home in the village of Wirksworth. And yesterday, a High Court judge rejected Eng-lish Heritage claims that a

Department of the Environ-

ment planning inspector was wrong in law not to declare the door "unsuitable".

The judge also rejected the

conservation body's claim that

allowing it to remain would

create a precedent which could

eopardise efforts to preserve

the character and appearance of

buildings in conservation areas

In the first case of its kind

Deputy Judge Moriarty QC said: "In my judgment, the crit-

icisms made are not borne out

on a fair reading of the decision

Patrick McLoughlin, Tory MP for West Derbyshire, said the English Heritage action

had been pointless and waste-

However, Dr Anthony Streeten, head of English Her-

itage's East Midlands conser-

vation team, said it was money

well spent: "It is not £10,000

were seeking of the issues in-volved," he said. "Our funda-

mental concern is not a

resistance to plastic. It is that we

don't consider you can achieve

the subtlety of treatment, of tex-

ture, of detailing, in plastic that can be achieved with the tradi-

tional craftsmanship in finish-

wasted because it has given us he very full airing that we

around the country.

# significant shorts

Poverty gap

The gap between rich and

poor has been widening more

m Botain than anywhere in the Baropean Union, a re-

port due for release by the

below the powerty line as a proportion of the population rose from 14.3% to 17.2%.

during the decade 1983 to 1993, by far the biggest in-

crease. The poverty line is defined as half the average

income for the country as a

whole and the report pois.
Britain ahead only of the

four most deprived BU mem-

bers-Spain Portugal Greece

and Ireland. By contrast only 5% of househoulds in the Benefux states fall below the

poverty line. Katherine Butler,

Student help

lines attacked

Students who phone university "hot lines" looking

expect good advice or even

for places cannot always

European Commission today

ggests. Numbers of families living

is widest

in Britain

### **Fireworks** deaths protest

Relatives of two people killed by fireworks handed in a etter of protest to the Prime Minister yesterday calling for tougher laws on the sale of ported fireworks yesterday. as the country's biggest namifacturer called for an argent review of their.

icensing testing and sale.

Joan Mitchell, aunt of a nine-year-old boy killed last week, and Antony Robinson. whose brother Roger died two years ago, were among a delegation which handed in a letter of protest to No 10 Downing Street. The move comes after two more deaths at the weekend from Chinese "mortar"-type fireworks, and amid fears that thousands of imported fireworks could

pose a lethal danger.
The DTI said it would consider the plan as part of its overall review of firework control, due to report in the

### Howard under fire

A leading barrister said last night that a judge's decision to reduce a prison term on a mugger who stole a £12,000 Rolex watch illustrated why mandatory sentencing would

not work. In a veiled criticism of Michael Howard's plans unveiled in his Crime Bill, Chris Sallon QC said judges' freedom to sentence

Judges had the right, en-shrined in law, to change their mind about a prison term and impose a less harsh penalty for up to one month after the original sentencing.

the fact that they have pleaded guilty.

an absurd waste. There are better things to spend money on and men on run Lam rather appalled at the way English Heritage have hounded a constituent of mine."

through north London before after a comprehensive study.

to their properties. Town centres have been given a boost in their battle against out-of-town shopping malls. Government and major shop-

But last week MPs accused

ministers and Miss Chant of

continued complacency. An all-

party committee said that seri-

ous mistakes continued to be made and that it was "not ap-propriate" for Miss Chant to try

The CSA's watchdog, the

to minimise them.

### new year. Charles Arthur English Heritage officials spent £10,000 on a failed legal action to force a woman living in a Derbyshire Dales conservation

according to the merits of individual cases was vital.

Greg Lynn, of the Victims of Crime Trust, said crime victims could feel insulted by criminals receiving lighter sentences in recognition of

# Dangerous

Six dangerous prisoners were on the run last night after overpowering guards while they were being transferred to jails in London.

The Category B prisoners, five men convicted of robbery and the other for possession of firearms, were serving sen-12 years. Although handcuffed, they managed to overpower five prison officers in a minibus as it travelled escaping on foot.
Four of the five prison officers needed hospital treatment, aithough the escapers were not thought to be

ping chains have agreed to fund a £200,000 research pro-

ject into self-help schemes, in

which businesses located in

decline-threatened centres

club together to fund local

improvements in a tightly de-

fined "business improvement zones" which keep them at-

tractive to shoppers, visitors

The research will cover about

10n areas, including Brixton

London, Aberdeen, Glasgow, Newcastle and Bristol.

and property investors.

and Oxford Street in

ing a traditional door."

He said English Heritage was happy that the court had treated the case as a one-off that would not allow other Shopping homeowners in conservation malls blow areas to make similar changes

Counsel for the Secretary of State made it very clear that they did not consider this particular inspector's decision to create a

# basic courtesy, according to research published yesterday. A third of the people answering phones during clearing this year were unhelpful or incompetent, and one m

six was not even polite, anonymous calls to 151 universities and colleges showed. At Riley Advertising, one. of the biggest university recruitment agencies, found that two of those called had-

printed the wrong phone number for their help lines. Of 22 who offered to send specific details of courses, only one did so. Almost half failed to identify themselves properly when answering the phone. Fran Abrams

### Mill buildings listed

Thirty former mill buildings from the golden age of the textile industry were listed to-day as of special historic in-

The move to protect the mills in Greater Manchester, announced by Heritage Minister Lord Inglewood, adds them to 60 already listed. Lord Inglewood said:

There were once around 2,400 mills in the Greater Manchester area. Yet by 1992, nearly half of those buildings had been demolished." The decision to add the buildings to the list comes after recommendations from English Heritage

The former mills include 11 in the Bolton area, six in Oldham, nine in Rochdale, two in Salford, four in Stockport, four in Tameside, and one in Wigan.

"It is important that we act now to identify the most significant survivors and preserve them for the benefit of future generations."

### 'Gunman' was boy aged 12

Scottish police officers hurst into the house of a suspected gunman yesterday after a report from a frightened mem-ber of the public.

But instead of finding a dangerous gunman, the police discovered a 12-year old boy, whose Hallowe'en outfit had been mistaken for something more sinister.

The boy, who was taken from the house in Aberdeen by of-ficers, is understood to have eapt out of a ground floor window in front of the passer-by who was so alarmed that he contacted the police.

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# Fear of fat cat's gain foiled plan to axe tax

Diane Covie **Economics Editor** 

Kenneth Clarke drew back from a planned cut in capital gains tax on the eve of last year's Budget hecause Cedric Brown, then chief executive of British Gas and the most notorious of Britain's fat cats, would have made too much money out of it.

The proposed reduction from 40p in the pound to 24p would have gone part of the way to honouring the Prime Minister's pledge to abolish capital gains and inheritance taxes. But the Chancellor made a last-minute U-turn when an alert Treasury official noticed that there would be a windfall for Mr Brown and other highly paid executives if he went-ahead.

paid husinessman, he became the lightning-conductor for popular disapproval of execu- Fiscal Studies.

tive greed. On top of h centive payments of nearly £500,000 and a pension worth £5.5m, Mr Brown had share options worth about £300,000 a year ago. A reduction of 16p in the rate of capital gains tax could have saved him nearly £50,000 in tax if he had exer-

cised all the options. The average tax saving for fat cats if the Chancellor had gone ahead would have heen the stock market.

around £30,000, and the handful with share options worth more than £Im would have saved close to £160,000 in tax. The move would have delighted the Lahour Party, which already regarded Mr Major's pledge as the Government's worst tactical mistake on the tax front. Labour had prepared a fat cats dossier ahead of last year's Budget just

The party calculated that abolition of the tax would create a boardroom bonanza at the privatised utilities, with tax savings of £492,000 for Roger Unwin, former chief executive of London Electricity, for example, and £181,000 for Ed Wallis,

chief executive of Powergen.
Although both Mr Major and Mr Clarke have since reahead.

Mr Brown's 75 per cent pay capital gains tax tax expensions increase last year, before he stepped down from British Gas, main vulnerable to the same problem. They are very keen problem. They are very keen not to give the Labour Party any easy targets," said Andrew Dilnot, director of the Institute for

> A move to abolish inheritance is symbolic, and it's cheap and easy because it does not raise much money." he said.

However, even if there are fat cats who would profit from a cut in capital gains tax, Mr Brown is no longer among them. His options over 703,000 British Gas shares are currently worththe company's share price on

# Dorrell wins extra £500m

Chief Political Correspondent

Tory MPs were last night writing off their hopes of a substantial tax give-away Budget after Stephen Dorrell, the Health Secretary, emerged as a winner in the spending battle with the Treasury.

The other winners at the

special meeting of the Cabinet were Michael Howard, who will get an increase in spending for the police next year and Gillian Shephard, the Education Secretary, whose schools budget will be increased.

The losers will include Sir George Young, whose roads budget is expected to be slashed for the second successive year, Virginia Bottomley, the National Heritage Secretary, who is being told to cut funding for the arts and Peter Lilley, the social security secretary, who was told to provide deeper cuts than he volunteered. Among the cuts single parents allowance is expected to he frozen. Details will be announced after the Budget on 26

But Tory MPs were writing off their hopes of large-scale tax

cuts in the Budget. The Chan-cellor will probably raise allowances for the low paid and take Ip off income tax but it is not a winning hand," said one former Cabinet minister. Another senior right-wing MP said: "I don't expect more

than £2 to £3hn in tax cuts. Now

Government was last night fuc-ing growing demands for emer-gency cash to belp hospitals

avert a crisis this winter.

hlame me' The Health Secretary sccured an extra £500m for growth on top of £800m for inflation. It came close to the £1.5bn he demanded though the

It could still leave hospitals with the prospect of going into the red or cutting operations. until the money is available next April. Department of Health officials ruled out any interim payment for hospitals hefore Christmas. In the Commons Mr Dorrell faced a call by Chris Smith. Labour's Shadow Health Secretary, for an emergency package for the hospitals who are going into the red.

we will be saying we have protected public services but the tax burden will have gone up. At the election, I shall be saying, don't



The Chief Executive of the controversial Child Support Agency is to leave after little more than two years in the job,

it was announced yesterday. Ann Chant, 51, credited with turning the agency round after its disastrous launch three years ago, is to head the Opportunity 2000 campaign to increase the number of women in senior management. Her predecessor, Ros

Hepplewhite, resigned after 18 turbulent months in the job, apologising for "unacceptable standards", and saying she had

In a sign that her departure ter responsible for the agency, praised Miss Chant as "first had taken the Government by surprise, yesterday's anrate", and Malcolm Wicks for



for appointing a successor would be made "shortly". Andrew Mitchell, the minis-

its criticisms of the agency, said: in the right direction. This is bad news for child-support policy. She provided strong leadership to the CSA after an extremely poor start and I am therefore concerned about the leadership of the agency at this sensi-tive time." Miss Chant said: "My time at

the CSA has often been hectic and certainly challenging but I am pleased that I will be leaving my successor an agency which has a steadily improving performance and excellent staff and managers in place to ensure

the good record continues." The agency was launched to trace absent fathers and extract child maintenance payments from them according to an "automatic" scale which replaced

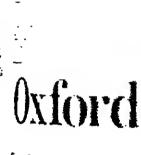
Ombudsman, Sir William Reid, also expressed "puzzlement" that the agency was not making better progress, given all the money poured into it. Miss Chant has overseen a dramatic reduction in the agency's error rate. But Frank Field, Labour chairman of the

cross-party Commons social security committee, has criticised the agency for effectively grant-ing an amnesty to about 300,000 people who have failed to reply

# AT LAST. THE DUCHESS OF YORK'S OWN SIDE OF THE STORY. IN HER OWN WORDS.

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CHE INDEPENDENT

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Cal of a second they Less ser fr and , the pain. town the west after t he contact or the police.

ARRUAD

# Q: What do a Jeremy Paxman interview and an armed robbery have in common?



A: They are both pawns in a new game of TV politics



# BBC muzzles interviewers

Mathew Horsman Media Editor

The BBC yesterday unveiled its first "statement of promises" to licence fee payers, guaranteeing fewer repeats, value for mooey, more original British programming and full accountability to

The move toward introducing a Citizen's Charter for the BBC was widely seen last night as part of the public ser-vice broadcaster's highly public campaign to win an increase in the licence fee to more than £100 within two years.

As it wooed the political parties the corporation also said it pledged to curb violence and bad language, in line with viewers' seotiments, and to ensure there were no "Rottweiler" interviews. The BBC has been criticised in the past for the aggressive interviewing techniques of presenters such as John Humphreys of Today and Jeremy Pasman of News-

The statement, which runs to 50 pages and which will be sent to 10 million households, follows a long consultation process launched by the renewal of the BBC Charter last year. The corporation will have spent nearly £500,000 on the consultation and mailing.

Introducing the statement yesterds Christopher Bland, the Chairman of through the licence fee. They have a right to know what the BBC is planning to do, year by year. They have the right to know to know what the BBC is planning to do, year by year. They have the right to know whether the BBC has spent money etherized and how the BBC is responding to their views."

The higher fee is linked to plans to mirroduce digital services from next year and to safeguard the core relevision and radio programming. It would mark the first real increase in the fee for 10

said it would strive to ensure that eight out of every 10 hours of programming was made in the UK and that at least a

third of programmes are made in the re-gions by 1998.

Promises covering programmes for ethnic groups, more factual shows in peak time and a new morning schedule were also made. Interviewers would ask appropriately forceful questions with

courtesy and a consistent tone, regard-less of who holds those opinions". The BBC also said it would take ac-count of viewers' preferences when selecting which programmes would be repeated.

Complaints would be answered within 20 working days.

The statement of promises was said

yesterday to be consistent with John Ma-jor's Citizen's Charter and was aimed at ensuring that licence fee payers felt the television and radio services provided

value for money.

"This is the start of a closer relationship between the world's greatest cultural institution and those who make it what it is - the licence payers," John Birt, the director general, said. The BBC launched its campaign to

win a higher licence fee in Angust and is awaiting the Government's decision about the formula to be used to set the payment from I April next year. The the BBC Board of Governors, said: "BBC has suggested amodest single dig-"Viewers and listeners fund the BBC if annual increase to take the fee to £100 within two years.

Among specific pledges the BBC years, the BBC has argued.



ers will have more choice on repeats of old programmes

### Curbs on crime shows

John Major's government yesterday moved television to the very centre of the pre-election campaign, as Virginia Bottomley, the Secretary of State for National Heritage called for urgent action against TV violence.

In letters to the BBC, the Independent Television Commission and the Broad-casting Standards Council, Ms Bottom-ley expressed particular disquiet at the unhealthy concentration on crime and the emergency services", including true crime reconstructions and even secoes from popular series such asCastally, Prime Suspect and London's Burning. She asked for an urgent meeting to discuss ways of ensuring that "television programme makers and hroadcasters take full account of the standards acceptable to today's viewers".

She added: "I would also like to explore what more we can do to help protect vulnerable groups of viewers, particularly children, from unsuitable ma-

The move was seen in broadcasting circles as overtly political, and aimed at helping the Conservatives regain the moral high ground lost to Tony Blair's Labour in recent weeks.

"Who knows, maybe the Govern-ment will start talking about the V-chip again, depending on where they stand in the polls," said one industry chief ex-

The V-chip is a device installed in TV sets to let parents to block out programmes of a violent or sexual nature. Statistics compiled by the ITC show that the incidence of violence on TV has only 4 per cent of complaints to the HBC in the last three months were related to violence, none of which were upheld by

the BBC's own internal complaints unit. In a related move, the Home Office called for a clampdown on video violence. and has requested a report from the British Board of Classification on ways to reduce the incidence. "We must re-double our efforts to raise standards in the media and the video industry," Tom Sackville, the Home Office minister, said in a speech to the British Video Association in London yesterday.

Ms Bottomley has also requested the BBC, the ITC and the BSC to furnish written reports by the end of the month detailing actions they have already taken to curb the incidence of violence on The BBC said last night that violence

was "an issue we take seriously, and our guidelines are constantly under review". It added that it took its responsibility to abide by the 9pm watershed in peak time particularly seriously, and that it routinely warned viewers about potentially of fensive programmes.

The unofficial view at the BBC was less restrained, with one senior source suggesting: "This is blataot electioneering. and an over-reaction."

BBC sources also suggested that the timing appeared linked to the publication yesterday of the BBC's Statement of Promises, which the public service broadcaster viewed as proof of its commitment to listen to the views of licence payers.

The Government's action followed a rare official warning issued to Carlton over a protracted rape scene in an enisode of London Bridge.

# xford dons vote against business school project

Oxford University faced acute embarrassment last night after plans for a £40m business school were post-poned amid controversy over a £20m donation from the middle eastern financier, Wafie Said.

Several hundred academics atlended a meeting of Congregation in the Sheldonian Theatre to vote on the proposed development of the

business school on the present site of the university sports ground, next to Merton College. The proposal provoked outrage because the fields had been sold to the university by Merton in the 1960s on the understanding they would not be devel-

Although Congregation voted 259-214 against the development, the proposal might still go to a postal vote oext week.

said to disapprove of the involvement of Mr Said, a friend of Baroness Thatcher, who helped British Aerospace win the Al-Yamamah arms deal with Saudi Arabia.

Much of yesterday's resolution centred on Mr Said's stipulation that a private foundation be set up to govern the school. This would be run by the vice-chancellor, and three university representatives, alongside

Many opponents of the plan were Mr Said and five outside trustees appointed by him.

Opponents of the plan see this as a threat to the university's constitu-tional independence and fear a precedent could be set, leading to a nentation of Oxford's governing

Mr Alexander Murray, a medieval history doo opposing the plan, said the proposal was a "dislinetly discomforting arrangement"

and warned that it could be counterproductive. "We've got a big, rich institution in our midst." he said. "I'm struck by the degree to which we are beholden in this field to outside bene-

Dr Michael Woodin, a Fellow of Balliol College and Green Party councillor, questioned the nature of the "strings" attached to Mr Said's

He said that although Mr Said had

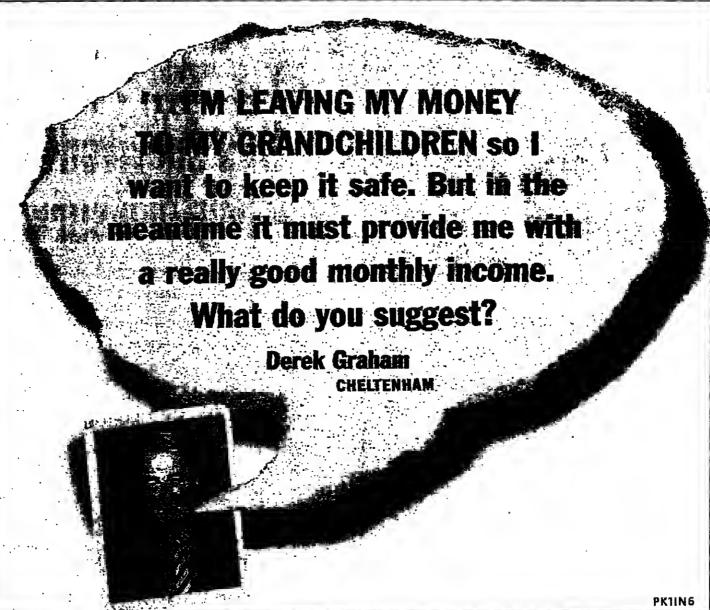
protested against claims in the past that his money had come from dubious sources, he had still made his fortune in the arms trade. "He is an arms deal ocgotiator, the middle

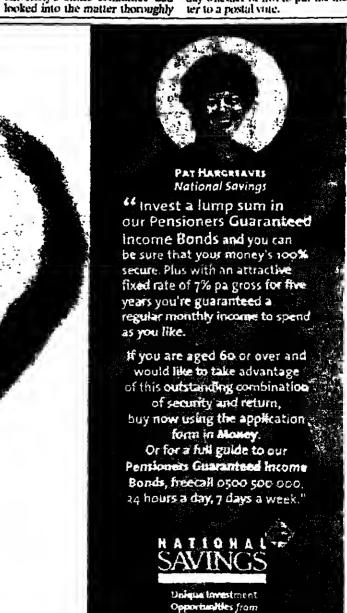
man, if you like - the fixer," he said. But the university's vice-chancellor, Dr Peter North, who proposed the special resolution to set up the school, said he was satisfied that the university's ethics committee had for the proposal. "I believe that not only would we lose Mr Said's support if we didn't vote for this proposal," he added, "but lose the support of other benefactors and put at risk the good will of many others.

The proposal will oow be put before a meeting of the Hebdemadal council, which will decide on Monday whether or not to put the motter to a postal vine.

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# Wartime secret: How Churchill tried to blow up his own navy

Was invasion plan using warships floated on air bags iust hot air?

Christopher Bellamy Defence Correspondent

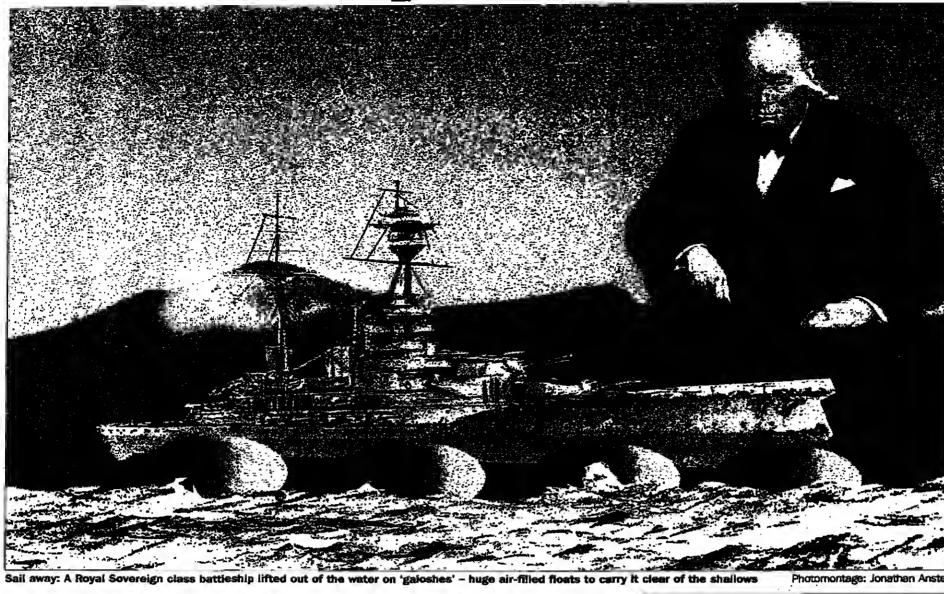
Even at the start of the Second World War, the accountants ruled. Sir David Nichnlas, the retired former chairman of ITN, has discovered that an astonishingly bold scheme to invade the Baltic hatched by Winstoo Churchill before he hecame Prime Minister was never put into practice, partly because of the cost - £8m m £10m, nr about £250m in today's money. The nther reason? Probably, it was just plain mad.

The idea was to put a powerful naval force including three 28,000-too hattleships into the Baltic, attacking Germany from behind. To evade German defences in the Baltic approaches - the Kattegat, between Denmark and Sweden -Churchill proposed to send the massive warships through an unguarded but shallow channel. Normally, the channel would have been too shallow for the giant vessels, so Churchill came up with a brilliant idea: float them through huoyed up on

At the outbreak of the Second Warld War an 3 September 1939 Churchill was re-appointed First Lard of the Admiralty - a position with no modern equivalent but which gave him enormous power as political and military supremu of the Royal Navy. Sir David's research, which he described as "a kind of hnbby", began several years ago when he was browsing through Churchill's

Admiralty papers.

Like Churchill's ill-fated brainchild of the First World War, the Gallipoli campaign, the poteotial strategic advantages were enormous. Churchill's aim was to divert huge German naval and air forces into the Baltic, cut off Germany from the supplies of iron ore it received from Sweden, threaten Hitler from the rear and possibly bring Sweden and Norway into the war on the British side.



the cost and complexity of the operation, and the risk to the force weighed against it. The first battleship to be earmarked, Royal Oak, was torpedoed the next month. But in the end, the decisive factor may not have been the cost, but the risk that a British fleet in the Baltic might start war with the Soviet Unino - then a formal ally nf Nazi Germany.

According to papers discovered by Sir David, Churchill's plan relied on reducing the 30ft draught of the 28,000-ton Royal Sovereign class battleships by 9ft so they could pass None of these materialised: through "a certain channel

where the depth is only 26 feet". Later correspondence reveals the channel was the 'Vengeance Shoal", between Fyn Island and Zeeland.

There are at present no guns commanding this chan-nel", wrote Churchill, "and the states oo either side (Sweden, Denmark) are neutral. Therefore there would be no harm in hoisting the armour belt [on the battleships, cormally below the water-line | temporarily up to the water level. Churchill proposed to do

this with "caissons" - air-filled floats, designed to lift the giaut battleships nine feet. Codecamed "galoshes", they would be attached in two layers either side of the battleships, increasing their beam from 102 to 141 feet.

Churchill recognised that a naval force operating in the Baltic would be subject to heavy air attack. He also proposed reinforcing the armour on the battleships' decks, codenamed "umbrella". The force would also need a dozen smaller vessels with strengthened bows to withstand bumping into mines, and ships designed to take on enemy aircraft, including ships carrying barrage balloons. During December, Operation

disaster". But On 9 April 1940, the shock news came that Hitler had invaded Norway. That morning Churchill received a telegram from Admiral Lord Cork, who had been in charge of Operatioo Catherine: "If only Catherine had gone ahead. What an ideal force we would have together to go right in and break up the German fleet. It would have been ready, according to your last date, nine

Catherine was in effect cancelled. The First Sea Lord, Admiral Sir Dudley Pound, wrote that "sending a fleet of surface ships into the Baltic is courting

# Hooker tells of sales sprees

Graham Balt

The jury in the Old Bailey tri-al of an Inland Revenue inspector accused of bribery was told yesterday how he used the same shop to buy clothes for both his wife and his mistress.

Michelle Corrigan, a prostitute who had an affair with Michael Allcock, the tax inspector, told the court of her visits to an exclusive West End fashion store.

The shop, Joseph in Knightsbridge, central London, was a favourite of Mr Allcock's wife and he was auxious not to be recognised by staff while shop-ping with his girlfriend.

We went there about half a

dozen times. Michael used to

shop for Sally [Mrs Allcock] at Joseph so I used to wait outside while he paid," said Miss Corrigan in reply to questions from John Black, for the prosecution. Miss Corrigan, 30, a drinks vending machine manager from Portsmouth, was giving evi-

dence for the second day in the trial, which is expected to last until Christmas. She told the court how she would go into the shap to pick out the designer clothes she wanted and leave Mr Allcock to pay either by cash or credit card. Mr Allcock, 47, of Colchester,

Essex, denies 13 corruption charges. Two businessman he was allegedly investigating are also in the dock. Hisham Alwan, 56, an oil consultant of Knightsbridge, and David Shamoon, a property developer of West London, deny four charges of attempting to bribe Inland Revenue officials.

Miss Corrigan, who was dressed in a smart black trouser suit, also said that her former lover would bring her back gifts from holidays he took with his

She said that she received her last gift from Mr Allcock about a month before the affair ended in the wake of an Inland Revenue investigation that started in September 1992.

Mr Justice Peter Beaumont, the judge, later censured the Evening Standard of Loodoo and the Daily Mail for what he described as inaccurate report-

ing.
The trial continues.

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A former policeman who alleged that British Airways had conducted a dirty tricks campaign against him after he complained of swallowing glass on claimant". one of its flights had his claim for damages thrown out of court yesterday.

Man who claimed dirty tricks by BA has case thrown out for the case because of illness but he was later described by counsel for the airline as a fraudulent "professional

Central London County Court was told that Mr Gorman

tend the hearing. Robert Webb QC, representing BA, said there was no medical evidence to support his failure to turn up, even though a letter purporting to be from doctors treating Mr Gomman had been received. Mr Gorman's fight with BA

John Gorman, 39, of Enfield, fering from syncopal, a fainting began in lanuary 1993 when he to have yesterday's case dis-north London, failed to turn up condition, and was unable to at-claimed to have swallowed a missed. Mr Webb said the air-fair to us." piece of glass from a drink during a flight to New York. The airline denied liability and it lefter emerged that Mr Gorman had made a similar claim against Delta Airlines in 1991 when he accepted a \$5,000 set-tlement. Successfully applying

line had intended to call 11 witnesses and two experts to contest Mr Gorman's claims. We say it is a claim that is

fraudulently made by a profes-sional claimant," he said. "Any injuries he suffered are minimal in the extreme - and

Judge Nicholas Medawar said: "There does not seem to be any semblance of a medical certificate," and announced that he had no choice but to dis-

miss the case. Mr Gorman was not legally represented as he had been concourt for an adjournment by telephone, but only a written application would have been considered.

The bearing brings to an end a three-year period of claim and ing that he had been the victum counter-claim during which Mr of a series of physical attacks. a three-year period of claim and Gorman sought to link his case

ducting his own case. He is with the experiences of Richard thought to have applied to the Branson, who successfully proved that BA had conducted a dirty tricks campaign against his airline, Virgin, Last year, Mr Gorman, a BA shareholder, told the airline's annual meetthreats and vandaloon.

# New Ridings head expels twelve pupils

Esther Leach

The new head of the Ridings School in Halifax, closed because of assaults on teachers. last night expelled 12 purpls and temporarily excluded another

Peter Clark, appointed acting head last week, made his first move to restore order at the Ridings as its governors met to discuss an inspection report which is expected to brand the school a failure.

Calderdale council said that a number of the excluded pupils had been involved in incidents which led to the school's closure.

Mr Clark's action, announced at a council press conference, goes a long way towards meeting the demands of teachers at the school who said originally that they would strike unless 60 pupils were expelled but then reduced the number to "around 20""

The inspection report, to be published today by Gillian Shephard, the Secretary of State for Education, is understood to say that the school not only fails to control its papils but also offers them poor teaching.

The school reopens today for fifth- and sixth-formers and later this week for other pupils under Mr Clark, head of a nearby grant-maintained school. It was closed by Calderdale last Thursday after inspectors said it was in danger of spiraling out of

have voted to strike will be at work today. They have not yet taken a final decision about strike action.

Nigel de Gruchy, its general secretary, said of the exclusions: "We are very pleased. This is a step in the right di-rection." Earlier, after a meeting with council officials he said that he was optimistic that the council was now meeting the union's concerns. ...

After meeting his members he said they viewed Mr Clark as "a positive, down to earth man with the right attitudes".

He added that some teachers accepted that they would be criticised in the report of the emer-gency inspection team which visited the school last week. Mr de Gruchy said: "Every-

one has been blamed and we must take our share of the responsibility but few have hlamed the biggest factor of all, the outrageous behaviour of a hard core of unruly children and their families.'

Michael Higgins, Calder-dale's education chairman, said the authority could give no "blanket assurances" about expulsions. Each case would be treated on its merit. The school needed "to get its act together" and present a clear case to the independent appeals panel.

Failing schools are normally allowed 40 days to produce an action plan on how they intend to improve. However, Mrs phard is likely to use her it in the case of the Ridings.

plan, she can send in a team of education experts to take over from the head who decide whether it should close.

A governors' meeting last m Worksop, Nottinghamshire, failed to resolve the dispute there over a disruptive 10-yearold which has closed the school.

The governors appealed to Nottinghamshire county coun-cil to intervene. Members of the NASUWT are refusing to teach the boy.

Prospects for settling the dispute look bleak. Fred Riddell, the education chairman, has written to Mrs Shephard saying he has no legal power to inter-vene. He said it would be wrong to take money away from other children to pay for one-to-one tuition for the 10-year-old in or-

used as a basis for "value-added"

Judith Judd

**Education Editor** 

exam league tables.

Independent schools show the way for national tests lowances for differences in intake.

The new tests may eventually be used in all private schools and would Independent schools are to introduce tests that may be a blueprint for naallow them to measure the progress tional testing of all pupils, an associ-ation of headteachers said yesterday. their pupils have made between entering secondary school at the age of 11 or 13 and GCSE and A-level. The 45-minute tests to be taken on entry to secondary school would be

State school pupils now take national curriculum tests at seven, 11 and 14 and the Government is considering how to Both the Government and Labour use the results to compile value-added tables. A paper considered by the anuhave said they want value-added tests ual conference of the Girls' Schools Asbut neither has worked out a way of power to shorten this time him-devising them. Schools say the league sociation of top girls' independent al tests is that they don't think they are it in the case of the Ridings. tables to be published has month are schools in Brighton proposes a test that very valuable."

unfair because they do not make al- would measure IQ. potential, and

Putting heads together: Head teachers at the annual conference of the Girls' Schools Association in Brighton

achievement. Roseanne Randle, chair of the association's education committee and head of Dame Alice Harpur School, Bedford, said: "What we are planning would be much better than the Government's national curriculum tests. We think the Department for Education would look at our tests with interest. They could lead the way to a

sensible national scheme. "The reason many independent schools are not taking part in nation-

lot the tests next September and all may take part the following year. The Headmasters Conference of top boys public schools is also piloting the tests. Margaret Rudland, the association's new president and head of The Godolphin and Latymer School, Hammersmith, west London, said test results of individual pupils would not be

released. "I see no value in ranking pupils on their entry to school," she Rudland attacked the idea, floated recently, of introducing a moral com-

ponent to every A-level subject.

arguing for breadth the association has always insisted on rigour in the sixthform curriculum and we need to preserve the intellectual identity of each subject as a priority. "Surely a really detailed study of a added. In her presidential address Mrs subject provides a kind of moral and

Some independent schools will pi-She said: "Honesty and integrity are more likely to be learnt through the systematic study of an objective discipline, such as mathematics, than by threatening its intrinsic integrity with a superficial overlay of morality. While

cultural dignity of its own. Perish the thought that moral instruction will be included in every A-level course."





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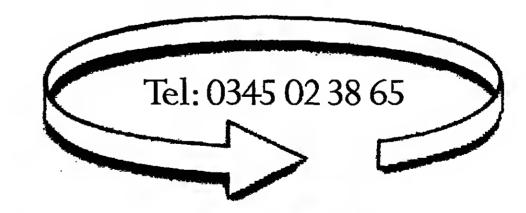
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# PRIME MINISTER'S QUESTIONS

John Major

5/10

A marrow win because of Blair's long-windedness. These days Major takes pot shots at Blair's style rather than the issues. Tory benches were more firmly behind him than last week- health an easier subject for him than beet.

Tony Blair

4/10

Could put PM firmly on the spot (and score better) if hedidn't Insist on speech-making. After PM's questions, lan Bruce (C. Dorset S), suggested that Blair should be limited to a bite of up to 200 words.

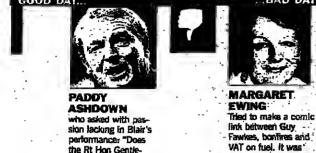
### THEMES OF THE DAY

The NHS (Tony Blair, Paddy Ashdown)

Fall in family living standards (Down Primarolo, Lab. Bristol S) Manchester's regeneration (Sir Fergus, Montgomery, C. Altrincham and Sale)
Tory economic success (Nicholas Winterton, C. Macclesfield) Old people, fuel and Guy Fawkes (Margaret Ewing, SNP Moray)

BLAIR'S ATTACK

Will the Prime Minister admit... that the National Health Service is indeed in a state of crisis? Major replied that the Conservatives had pledged to increase funding to the NHS, and Labour had not. Blair re-



filmsy anyway, but. the House of Com-

was not the place to

MALAPROPISM OF THE DAY

the Rt Hon Gentle-

man not reafise that

is not next year, it is

John Major on the Conservatives' record on the NHS: "It is a pledge that people don't have to look in the mirror to see, they can look in our record."



Dafydd Wigley, (PC. Caemarfon) - "Is the Prime Minister

are that if the linkage between pensions and earnings had not been broken in 1980, that level (of state pensions) would have been £83 a week?" Major replied that the Con-servatives have "ensured that I the state pension! has kept. up with increasing prices\*.

### CREEP OF THE DAY

Nicholas Winterton, (C. Macclesfield): "Would my Rt Hon Friend accept that one of the great success stories of the pre-sent Government is the fact that they've brought about a graying economy with low inflation and falling unemployment? And will my Rt Hon Friend now accept an invitation from me to visit Maccleslield... an area which is proud to be Tory?

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# Lottery cash: Bottomley owns up

**David Lister** Arts News Editor

The Government has admitted that some good causes that have been awarded cash from the National Lottery may not get their money.

Responding to recent re-ports in The Independent, Virinia Bottomley, the National Heritage Secretary, said yes-terday there could be some cases of good causes which have been promised money in the full glare of publicity but would not actually receive the

cash. She said: "There may be some, who for unforeseen reasons don't get their lottery could manage big redevelopment plans funded by lotsons don't get their lottery money. But I would be surprised tery cash. if any but a handful fail to deliver the criteria that have been

set for them." The Arts Council which dissome beneficiaries may have to be "reassessed", and could yet not be given their promised money. This will happen if there is a cut in their annual revenue grant, which means that their artistic and business plans

Such a scenario looks increasingly likely as Mrs Bottomley signalled vesterday that she had failed to convince the tributes lottery money to the Treasury of the need to ingood causes, is warning that crease annual arts spending. At a private briefing, she emphasised the Government's priority was to keep pressure on public spending, and to con-ceotrate on health, education

and law and order.

keep millions of pounds of lot-

tery money going to the arts.
Among the institutions which could yet lose some or all of their promised lottery money are the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, the Cambridge Arts Theatre and the Yorkshire Dance Centre in Leeds.

Ironically, Mrs Bottomley will today make a speech in Leeds singling out the Yorkshire Dance Centre as an example of how the lottery is transforming

both the arts and the process of

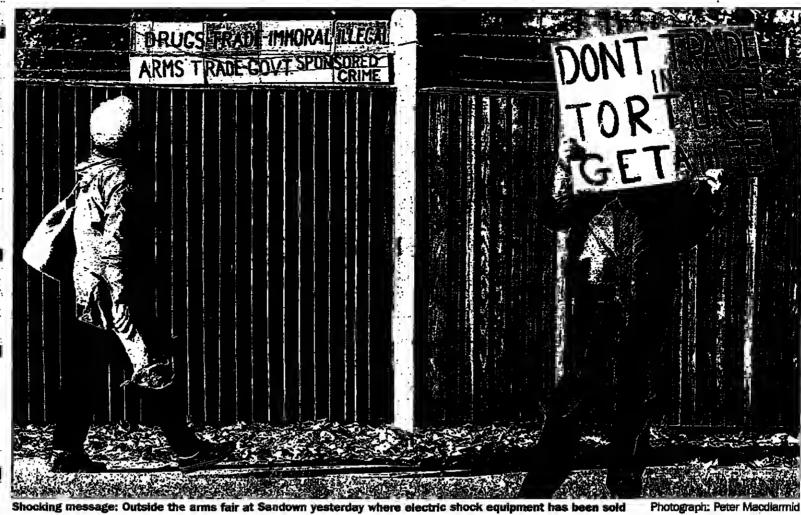
She will tell the British Urban Regeneration Association Conference: "Here in Leeds the Yorkshire Dance Centre's dance theatre project, Union City, has brought together the talents of 14 young people from inner-city areas of Leeds. Their latest production, Paradise Vibe, is a unique expression of the cuitural diversity of young people ... in British cities and speaks

directly to young people ... "I am pleased that this year Yorkshire Dance received a National Lottery award for £606,000 and that work is now under way to equip and mod-

emise the centre.' But the Arts Council has confirmed that the Dance Centre might not receive the money as a cut in annual revenue grant would adversely affect the artistic and business plans they submitted before being grant-

ed lottery money. The Government's annual grant to the arts will be announced after the Budget, but projections are for a cut of at

# Blockade of the torture arms fair



About 300 protesters gathered outside Sandown race course in Surrey yesterday to demonstrate against an arms fair alleged to seil electric shock batons and torture equipment. In the area.

More than 100 police were

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The protest, organised by the Campaign Against The Arms Trade, began early yesterday with blockades of entrances to the race course and continued through the day, dis-

deployed and at one point Police manpower and rethrough to block access to the exhibition centre. Olive Cassirer, a poppy-wear-

ing retired headmistress, was one of many local people there. She had never been to a demonstration before. "This country concerned they are just like should not be selling these kinds of armaments," she said. of armaments," she said.

Kay Lippold, a retired health the owners were likely to "convisitor from Walton-on-Thames,

was "asbamed" of the fair. "We ed to be proud of what En land made and exported," she said. "I don't see how anyone can be proud of this." Organisers of the Copex 96 exhibition attempted to ward off

demonstrators last month. One letter to the campaign warned that its demonstration could divert "precious Metropolitan

around 30 protesters broke sources" needed against "impending terrorist attacks".

A spokesman for Sandown said that United Race Courses, which owns the ground, was aware of the strength of feeling against the fair. "As far as we're sider carefully" whether the fair would be held there next year.

The organisers bad their own heavy security presence. Some guards were stationed on watch towers, videoing the protest. The guards said only "vetted" members of the press were al-

lowed into the exhibition. More than 100 companies were listed as exhibitors, including Birmingham Gun Makers, Antauga Arms and the Arab Defence Iournal.

Many visitors chose not to discuss their reasons for attending, some shielding their faces. But Lior Caspi. visiting the Israeli delegation, said the protest was based upon a "mis-

understanding".
"I think [people would understand better] if they could see that some of these things are legitimate for keeping the peace," he said while videoing protesters.

The purpose of the fair was revealed last year by a Channel 4 documentary. After it was shown, Copex launched a libel action against the Campaign Against the Arms Trade. The case did not proceed, and the campaign is still trying to recover its costs.

# **Minister** sees the future in a kiosk

John Rentoul Political Correspondent

Kiosks offering "electronic selfservice government" will be announced by ministers today. They are designed to take the paperwork out of paying taxes, renewing driving licences and applying for planning permis-

Touch-screen computer terminals in booths dubbed the "phone boxes of the future" are intended to give everyone direct access to government agencies and local council services.

"The technology exists to deliver self-service government to both the public and businesses, Roger Freeman, public services minister, said yesterday. He is publishing a Green Paper on the subject today.

Ministers will unveil three pi-

lot schemes which will allow anyone to walk in off the street to their local library or into a pavement kiosk and use computer screens to call up information. The services will also be on the Internet.

Mr Freeman suggested it would help small traders who wasted to expand but were not sure about planning rules.

"If you're a plumber and you want to expand your workspace and need to know about the planning regulations, through this technology you can get the form and information from the Citizens' Advice Bureau," he said.

Ministers believe the comouters will be no more complihole-in-the-wall cash

pensers. John Prescott, the deputy Labour leader, will unveil the Opposition's similar plans for open electronic government today, claiming that Labour would take a more active role in managing the technology and protecting public-sector workers against job losses.

The Government was criticised by Stepben Timms, Labour MP for Newham North-east, for having failed to generate enthusiasm for its

Mr Timms said that in America there had been n huge national debate on the subject. It had culminated in the US Telecom Act, passed this year, which contains a pledge to make advanced communications technology available to all

.He contrasted the situation with that in Britain, where Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister, gave up the leadership of a ministerial task force on information technology in June because of a conflict of interest with his Haymarket publishing company. It has signed a licensing deal with BSkyB, which hopes to carry the information superhigh-way on its digital television network.

King Ray (1884)

Whereas the Deputy Prime Minister could have given the project the high profile it de-served, said Mr Timms, he was replaced by Viscount Cran-borne, the Tory leader in the Lords. "That just about says it all, doesn't it? The technology for the 21st century in the charge of an hereditary peer."

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# Minist seesth futur in a kiosk

John Rentoul bereiter dering chap

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The same of the sa Parent of the bearing ST JOSEPH HUSPICE \$1.197

Meltdown: great flood begins as the biggest glacier goes liquid

Water created by vokanic activity beneath Europe's largest glacier burst loose yesterday, sweeping away two bridges in its path. The giant sub-glacial lake in south-eastern Iceland had been filling up since a wolcome.

been filling up since a volcanic eruption at the beginning of last Orn Egilsson, spokesman for Iceland's Civil Defence agency, said floodwater had destroyed the 1,233ft long Gigja Bridge as well as a 160ft bridge along the southern coast. The flooding is bad. The speed of the water is much more than people imagined, said Mr Egilsson. The flooding is in

a remote area away from towns or farms and did not threaten A reporter with Icelandia National Radio said the flood waters had descended faster than forecast. "In three hours Civil defence authorities were concerned that a third bridge, the 2,950ft long Skei-



pected floods, which could wash way the country's coastal ring road, and devastate the power Authorities have been preparing for the torrent by re-

inforcing dykes and building water, debris and ice blocks away from voinerable areas. The Vatnajokul placier covers 3,200 sq miles and reaches a depth of 3,000 it.

ınd

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### DAILY POEM

**Ghost Ship** By Brian Pattern

human life, he added.

since you left this port, semen hardly dry on women's i the years have shrunk to a single fleck-foamed wave;

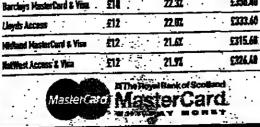
Though there is a harbour into which it is best never to find the way, a sea-route it is best never to follow, fate and chance meetings will always It is the seal's breath melts the ice floe,

the flip of a gull's wing changes the wing's course. Brian Patten's Armada (Flamingo, £5.99) is one of the most perfect and accessible poetry books of the year, writes Catriona Lake, Poetry Editor. The armada of the title, a sequence of poems about the death of his mother, forms part of wider thematic elegies some of the best of which rest upon sea-faring metaphors. He has always shared with Adrian Henri and Roger McGough the stamp of "Liverpool poet" - popularist in form, fierce in delivery - but this, his eighth collection, is undiluted, lytic poetry of immense range and humanity and highly recommended.



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# **20mph** limits to put brakes on drivers

Transport Correspondent

A big increase in the number of 20mph zones was recommended by a cross-party parliamentary road safety group yesterday.
The Parliamentary Advisory

Council for Transport Safety said all speed limits should be reviewed and recommended 15 measures which it said Parliament and the motoring industry should undertake. The whole issue of speed had to be tackled if the number of accidents was to be reduced, it said in a pamphlet.

Britain has one of the worst records in Europe for child pedestrian deaths. According to transport ministers, 160 child pedestrians were killed in speed-related accidents in 1995. The council said in Taking Action on Speeding that reduc-ing speed on the roads would be the single most effective way of lowering that toll.

Robert Gifford, its director, said: "Pedestrians hit at 20mph by a vehicle receive mostly minor injuries. At 30mph the majority are killed or seriously

Speed killed car occupants too, he said. Their chances of being killed or seriously injured was five times greater at 40mph that at 20mph. The pamphlet said: "Speed is the

higgest single contributory fac-tor in road accidents." The council said it accepted a survey finding that 85 per cent of motorists broke speed limits "when the road is quiet".

But it said all limits should be reviewed with the Idea of reducing the current 60mph maximum on trunk roads and creating many more 20mph zones in towns without the sures presently required.

The council said it accepted there was no single measure which could transform safety but called for a national strategy to tackle both excess speed (breaking the limit) and inappropriate speed (when a car is driven too fast for the conditions).

The Highways Agency was criticised for cutting funds for local safety schemes on trunk

The pamphlet said that a key problem was that drivers "do not perceive speeding to he a significantly criminal activity and suggested a change in th driving test. Mr Gifford said: Instead of focusing on technical things ... the test should concentrate on ensuring that drivers are aware of the dangers of speeding.

The council also called for a national data-base for speeding offences to help insurance com-

# M&S hitches up its underwear and steals some jewels to create over 2,000 new jobs



Bra new world: M & S, which sells more underwear than any other group, aims to attract custom by adding extras such as a new fitting service Photograph: Tony Buckingham

Labour Editor

Booming high street sales are prompting Marks & Spencer to take on an extra 2,250 staff to man bigger stores and boost customer service. Already Britain's biggest underwear retailer the group has increased its share of in five off-the-peg suits hought

bra sales to well over a third by adding extras such as a fitting service. Marks is also for the first time offering made-to-measure suits at its City of London branch, which opened in September, and is now notching up sales of £1m a week.

in Britain and is launching its impressed and marked the own jewellery to steal a march on high street jewellers, but Sir Richard Greenbury, the chair-man, said only four shops in the group could offer the full Marks & Spencer range. He said there were 30 towns where they could double turnover if stores could

Customers are coming out of the trenches . . . We want to encourage there to shop with us as they seem more disposed to shop again and we want to offer them better service," said

The Contemporary Collections

floor at Liberty it ain't, but M & S can be relied upon to pro-vide fashionable clothes that

women want to buy, and buy

they do. It is rumoured that the

Marble Arch store in central

London alone brings in about

film a day. The queues of

women at the check-outs are

loaded with clothes, shoes and

German and Arab tourists expect easy, affordable hasics

when they go but legions of

British women know something

more. When the catwalk dic-

tates clothes in shades of choco-

lingerie.

be enlarged or resited.

tills, to answer queries and to shares down sharply, citing disappointing profits and the inshelves more quickly. creased cost of more

Chic it usually is, Liberty it ain't

The new staff will be concentrated in elite stores that attract the most customers and record the highest returns. Among the company's 50 highflyers are those in Newcastle upon Type and the City.

Recruitment has started and will be completed by March. Marks also took on an extra 1,500 personnel last year as sales picked up. Directors said

late, aubergine and olive green

such as a velvet slim-fit shirt, a

sheer devoré effect top or a flu-

id jersey tunic with matching

trousers, they know they can go

to M & S and not break the

bank. Ask any fashion editor to

throw open the doors to her

wardrobe and you will find

Marks & Spencer clothes

nestling alongside those from

Calvin Klein and Dolce e Gab-

regarded as one of the most unfashionable places to shop, women were reluctant to admit

ensure that stock was put on the The announcement of more obs coincided with the results

for the six months to 28 September, which showed that M & S had improved profits to £430.1m compared with £385.4m in the same period last year. Sir Richard described this as a good performance with retail sales increasing by 8.4 per cent over the corresponding period last year. He stressed that consumer confidence seemed to

age of the store has been trans-

formed with the belp of an

aggressive design initiative and

designers such as Paul Smith

the younger more affluent mar-

ket has caused the company no

end of trouble. Last year it was

editor of Vogue, said that her looked nearly identical, the hreathing down your neck favourite item last season was main difference was price: (there will never be high pres-

an M & S "shantung" shirt.

Bruce's cost £120, the M & S sure selling strategy in store) it version, £21. Ms Bruce has simply means there will he

since gone out of husiness. Jeff

Banks, a fashion designer and

presenter of The Clothes Show

where their T-shirts and television programme, also ac- out back onto the street.

But its strong push to capture

and Betty Jackson.

jumpers came from. But the im- cased the company of copying

accused by Liza Bruce, a employ 2,000 more staff to im-

swimwear designer, of copying prove customer care does not one of her ideas. The swimsuits mean you will have assistants

ny wanted to improve sales and management had raised the the pace of new product development. He said the company had increased its market share in clothing and held its postion in foods. Underlying sales grew at 9.5 per cent with home furnishings up by 26.9 per cent.

The company hoped to donhle its presence in Spain and strengthen its position in France. The store in Dublin had made an excellent start and the company intended to expand in Hong Kong and open new fran-

a distinctive pocket design. The

store agreed to pay a six-figure

set up a £1m fighting fund to combat claims that it has copied

designs. Despite this the com-

pany goes from strength to

strength. The news that it will

sure selling strategy in store) it

more stock on the rails, a full

range of sizes on offer and a

faster route through the check-

Marks & Spencer has since

compensation sum.

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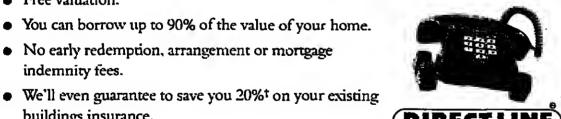
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DIRECT LINE	6.2%	£496.40		£148,920
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# Trees and plenty of paint revive the blasted Arndale

most conservative of five shortlisted teams to rehuild its city centre after the IRA bomb. Eday, a local consortium of architects, engineers, planners and huilders, plans to keep the devastated Arndale Centre, although it will be clad in a coal of new colours and pierced with pedestrian walkways.

The design team plans to cre-ate new tree-lined thoroughfares, or avenues, leading to a host of new leisure and entertainment centres. These will include a winter garden near the site of the bomb-damaged bus station and a new Trocadero behind the facade of the landmark Maxwell House huilding. The core of the plan is a broad avenue leading through some of the areas worst affected by bomb damage; this will pass

through a new city centre park. The Edaw team will need more than a little magic to bring new life into the heart of the city blown apart by a 3,300lb bomh on 15 June. The bombkilled no one but caused an es-



imated £500m damage, wrecking more than 1,000 square metres of shops and offices. Announcing the winning team yesterday, Sir Alan Cockshaw, chairman of the taskforce set up to rebuild the city, said: "Our aim is to create the very best city centre in the whole of Europe, but most importantly one which the people of Man-

Whether or not the people of Manchester are proud of the famously ugly Amdale Centre, which took the hrunt of the blast, Sir Alan did not say.

Responding to a questionnaire after the bomb, Mancunians complained of a city centre that was "dead as a place where people live": Edaw has replied with plans for 240 new homes in the rebuilt city

centre. Richard Leese, leader of Manchester City Council, said the project would create "a simple but memorable city centre, clearly deliverable within the time-scale and hudget". The time-scale is the end of 1998; the budget has yet to be decided, although Edaw has an initial fund of £22m to draw on. Milleanium funding is to be sought.
If the design is conservative,

that is because the city wants to get back on its feet as quickly as possible. The judges' choice has made it clear that what was wanted was a team and a design that could give birth to a new centre on a tight hudget and in the shortest possible time.
It is significant that none of

he five design teams short-listed for the competition included hig-name architects, despite the fact that the Richard Rogers Partnership, for example, is currently working on a facelift for Shanghai, and both Lord Rogers and his former partner, ano, are redesigning Potsdammer Platz, the Piccadilly Circus - or Manchester Piccadilly - of central Berlin.

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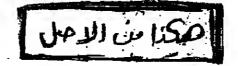
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Inder th Mosco

# Boris Yeltsin, who ran Russia on half a heart, puts his fate at last in the hands of surgeons



Finest hour: Yeltski takes to a tank and urges Muscovites to resist a coup given after Irish Prime Minister against President Mikhail Gorbachev Albert Reynolds is left on the tarmac











Paying the price: Exhausted after the election, Yeltsin appears on TV to

Phil Reeves and Helen Womack

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A special this three.

Boris Yeltsin has entered a critical 48-hour period when surgeons will get a clearer idea of the success of the multiple of the success of the multiple Yevgeny Chazov, who for years heart by-pass operation on treated Leonid Brezimev. presidency, and the future of Russia, so crucially

Doctors will today decide formation about a complex op-whether they can take him off eration on a Russian leader, and a respirator following the heard from surgeons who seven-hour operation, during worked on the organ that has which they stopped the President's heart for 68 minutes. After that comes another crucial

breathing. Five hours after the the operation the President, 65, recovered consciousnes and opened his eyes, said

The announcement came after a day in which, for the first time, the world was given inobsessed so many for so long. Renat Akchurin, head of the

12-strong team, said the opermoment - discovering whether ation had gone well but dis-he can again control his own closed that it had involved

"much more" by passes than the three or four anticipated, which suggests that the President's heart was more diseased than was realised.

There had been no unexpected problems but Mr Yeltsin still faced the "very important stage" of post-operative treatment. The first few days after a coronary by pass are critical, as they establish whether any damage to other organs has been inflicted during surgery.

But Dr Akcharin said that,

ers of office he temporarily transferred to his Prime Minister, Viktor Chemomyrdin, Michael DeBakey, the Amer-

ican cardiologist who led US and German advisers, said the operation was a "complete suc-cess" and predicted Mr Yeltsin would be able to perform his duties in a "perfectly normal fashion". He may be active long after his second term expires in 2000 - most studies show almost three-quarters of by-pass patients are leading a normal life 10-15 years after the operation,

he had two and probably three, heart attacks. In his absence, his entourage jockeyed for power, while the country was buffeted by political and financial crises. Yesterday saw evidence of that when hundreds of thousands took to the streets for a

It followed 15 months in which

ly over wage arrears. But it will be some time before Mr Yeltsin can tackle these issues. Although Dr Akchurin said he may be able to begin work as soon as next week, be

president until Christmas. The first sign the operation was pending came early yesterday, when the President's motorcade left the sanatorium where he was staying and head-ed for the Mosow Cardiologmonths after he confirmed to

day of strikes and rallies, largeheart disease and needed surgery. Doctors later diagonsed one blocked and three partially blocked arteries. His surgeons said they decided to go ahead when he was

Crucial decision in next few days as team gambles on whether to take president off respirator and supporters in the West, the will be, at best, a part-time in "optimum" condition - rid of operation was not before time. president until Christmas. early problems with an over-ac-tive thyroid, internal bleeding and anaemia. But its timing, on the day of the US election, was stage-managed, as was media

> television viewers what had long been suspected; he had Mescow at present. To the indignation of the President's staff, the world was denied news of the start of the operation for 30 minutes, because Russian agencies

coverage. The surgeons' con-

ference was restricted to what

aides called a "golden group"

of 100 correspondents, a frac-

tion of the thousands in

ment and wanted to check. But the operation's progress was thereafter remotted by Russian media throughout the

net and

LAS

Mr Yeltsin's spokesman said he joked with doctors as he went into the operating theatre. But last night, as they awaited the outcome of their work, the mood was more subdued. A number of critical questions remain. For instance, has the operation caused any brain damage? Such issues will be preying on the mind of Mr Yeltsin's wife, Nama: "Pray God that it will work out okay. she said after the operation. She was, she said, "very

worried, of course".

# Under the knife at Moscow's finest

Helen Womack Moscow

As President Boris Yeltsin went under the surgeon's knife yesterday. Alexei Nesterov, an ordinary Russian citizen, was nervously awaiting a similar

heart, attack, a month ago. dectors told him he should finder - surprise after all the horror go the eperation, which is routing in the West but still rarely performed in Russia. "To be frank, I wasn't keen. They had to persuade me," he said. You see, I was a doctor myself and we doctors are all cowards. We know that 2 per cent of patients die during this kind of.

But Dr Nesterov, at 62 three years younger than Mr Yeltsin. had oo complaints about the standard of care he was receiving in Moscow's Botkin Hospital. "Of course no specialist from Texas will fly out to advise . in my case," he joked. "But I am

perfectly satisfied with how I am being looked after here. The doctors are excellent, I am the medicines we need." sharing a nice little ward with only one other person and they are feeding me well."

The 1.800-bed Botkin Hoswith money donated by a prechant, comes as a pleasant paper in the lavatories. state of Russian medicine.

True, the hospital is prestigious, being the centre to which foreigners are always referred if they fall sick in Moscow. But the majority of its patients are Russians receiving state treatment, free of charge if they are residents of the capital or the surrounding region.

"Five years ago, when the West was sending humanitarian aid, things were difficult." said Vladimir Yakovlev, the hospital's chief doctor. "We really did need bein then. But the economic situation is slowly

The cardiology department, only renovated, is the showtor in charge, Shamil Arifulin, pital, founded 85 years ago offers are a cigarette, then reheart bypass operation. with money donated by a pre- alises, he has perhaps blun-After he suffered his second revolutionary Russian mer- dered, and there is no toilet

But the 12-bed unit gleams stories one hears about the and with the latest computerised equipment from America. The department deals with emergency cases brought in by ambulance and examines other-heart patients in a 50-bed unit. But if they need surgery, they go to other hospitals. . Dr. Nesterov will not have to

wait for his operation and afterwards, he will be sent to a sanatorium in the woods outside Moscow to convalence. "It won't be Barvikha [Mr Yeltsin's sanatorium but it could be Peredelkino, you know, where Pasternak lived, and that's just as good," he said.

# PM has charge of nuclear arsenal

Phil Reeves

It was a moment for which the Kremlin has been planning for weeks. Just before surgeons operated on him, President Boris Yeltsin signed Decree 1,534, transferring his powers to his Prime Minister. At 7am yesterday Viktor Chernomyrdin became President of the Russian Federation, with command of the so-called nuclear button.

Although the post is tempo

rary, he was well groomed. Nine days ago the NIV channel broadcast a profile aimed at proving he is not the dull bureancrat be might appear but a thinking, feeling, red-blooded Russian male. A man, in other words, the public could trust.
He was shown playing bil-liards, riding a jet-ski, playing an accordion. He confided be liked attractive women and hunting (Russian politics are unclouded by political correct-

ness) and even admitted enjoying the occasional vodica. For many, it was the most charismatic performance they had seen by a prime minister known more for his reliability than his water-sport skills. The former gas industry ex-

ecutive has been one of Mr Yeltsin's most trusted allies during his four years as Prime Minister and his brief reign may be a warm-up for greater things. He has a powerful constituency in the energy lobby and is topped to be the establishment's candidate in the next presidential poll. But if he is to win round Russia, he may have to

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do a lot more accordion playing.

# President ousts Bhutto with army backing



Jubilant: Women members of the Mohajir National Movement celebrate Ms Bhutto's downfall in Karachi yesterday. in Labore. Mr Zardari was one The party has accused her government of killing hundreds of Mohajirs over the last three years Photograph: Reuter of 29 politicians and top police

Lahore — The Prime Minister of Pakistan, Benazir Bhutto, was toppled vesterday in a swift constitutional coup with full backing from the military.

The President, Farooq Leghari, for decades a loyal friend of the Bhutto family, dissolved the country's national and provincial assemblies at 1 am yes-

terday morning.

Earlier oo Monday. Mr
Leghari had spent six hours trying to persuade her to resign, insisting that her hunglings and
nepotism had rotted out her 34month old government. "This is
your way of getting rid nf us,"
Ms Bhutto reportedly retorted,
"No, I won't do it."

Just as Ms Bhutto was preparing in sleep, troops closed in oo her Islamabad mansion. Her telephnne lines were cut, along with those of her cabinet ministers and advisers. The exprime minister spent yesterday under virtual house arrest.

The plug was also pulled on all cellular phooes across the country. Throughout Pakistan, the army and the para-military Rangers guarded television and radio installations and sealed off airports. Ms Bhutto's controversial husband and investment minister, Asif Zardari, 45, was arrested as he dined in the governor's old colonial palace in Lahore. Mr Zardari was nne in 29 politicians and ton police.

# Prime Minister accused of bunglings and nepotism, writes Tim McGirk

officials detained. Few Pakistanis are sorry to see Ms Bhutto go. Her husbandwas probably the most hated man in Pakistan, and Ms Bhutto had come to be as detested inside her country as she was respected abroad for combating the rise of Islamic

militancy in South Asia.

Her exit in disgrace may finish off the Bhutto dynasty. It has certainly fractured her Pakistan People's Party, perhaps beyond repair.

beyond repair.

Ms Bhutto's biggest mistake,
many Pakistanis believe, was
marrying Mr Zardari back in
1987. A bumptinus feudal lord, Mr Zardari was accused by political foes of massing not millions, but bundreds of millions, through corruptioo and kickbacks, but none of the accusatinns has yet to stick. Army intelligence yesterday morning flew him to an undisclosed location in Islamabad where he is believed to be facing interrogatioo. Several oewspapers claim Zardari secretly bought a £2.5m mansion in Surrey and stocked it with furniture and antiques sent from Karachi in crates labelled mangoes.

Worst of all, Mr Zardari has been named as a suspect in the murder nn 20 September nf Ms Bhutto's younger brother, Murtaza. It was the killing of Murtaza at a police roadblock on a dark empty street in Karachi, that seems to have convinced Mr Leghari to end her reign Ms Bhutto and her brother were political rivals, yet few suspect her of complicity; nn the night of the murder, she rushed into the Karachi hospital barefoot, Pakistan Muslin

morgue fir 45 minutes before she was finally pulled off her brother's bloodied corpse.

A few days later, Ms Bhutto enraged Mr Leghari by "insinuating" that the presidency and secret services had plotted to assassinate Murtaza—in a vain attempt, diplomats in Islamabad said, to deny that her husband might have been embroiled in the murder. Ms Bhutto later apologised to the president,

out of respect, and her cries of grief spilled from the hospital

but the damage was done.

After obtaining sanction and assistance from the army chief, General Jahangir Karamat, Mr Leghari sacked Ms Bhutto. Mr Zardari may face criminal charges for his alleged involvement in Murtaza's death, Murtaza's Lebanese-born widow, Ghinva, said recently: "My husband used to call him "Asif Baba and the 40 Thieves". Nobody but my husband dared to

Murtaza's assassination was just one in a long list of grievances used by Mr Leghari to justify Ms Bhutto's dismissal. The president accused her government of corruption, subverting the courts, and carrying nut extra-judicial arrests and kidoapping in the southern port of Karachi, where security forces are trying to quell unrest among a large community of Muslim immigrants from India, known as Mohajirs. To celebrate Ms Bhutto's downfall, Mohajir men danced in Karachi lanes and

fired off Kalashnikovs.

Mr Leghari named Malik Meraj Khalid, an intellectual and former assembly speaker, as Prime Minister to head a pared-down caretaker cabinet of technocrats, a newspaper editor, a lawyer, a retired general, and two politicians, ooe from Bhutto's party and one from the opposition, Pakistan Muslim League. The President promised elections oo 3 February, once the corrupt politicians have been rooted out.

But Mr Leghari's statement seemed to be a sinister echo of a past promise made by the late dictator, General Zia ul-Haq. The general had given identical assurances when he grabbed power in 1977 and held on for 11 years, until he was killed in a mysterious plane crash. But friends of Mr Leghari credit him with a sense of duty and a long memory: Throughout his long career in politics, he was several times jailed for crusading

against military regimes.

Corruption is so pervasive that some Pakistanis doubt that Mr Leghari and his vigilantes can succeed. Sherry Rehman, editor of a Karachi news magazine, the Herald, said: "There's widespread anxiety over how genuine this clean-up of politicians will be. The same old faces keep coming hack." Some of Leghari's new cabinet ap-

pointees are suspect. Many of the politicians arrested immediately after Ms Bhutio's fall were from the Pakistan People's Party, raising fears that Mr Leghari's sweep missed qually corrupt politicians from other parties.

Imran Khan, a cricket starturned political activist, welcomed Ms Bhutto's removal, as did Nawaz Sharif, ex prime minister and leader of the conservative opposition party, the Pakistan Muslim League, and the right-wing Muslim party, the Jamat e Islami.

Under Ms Bhutto's command, the country has sanken into near penury. The Karachi street wars scared off many foreign investors and often closed the port.

Visiting businessmen complained that few government deals went through without having to pay off huge bribes. "One cabinet minister asked for three bribes. We gave him the first two. But the greed was too much for us," said one Western energy consultant.

According to some economists, inflation unofficially had climbed in above 20 per cent and was still rising. With no moral authority at the top, corruption has seeped down to all levels of Pakistani society. While poor Pakistanis were

Detested in
Pakistan, she
may finish off
the Bhutto
dynasty with her
exit in disgrace

suffering the economic squeeze, the local press were busy with exposes on the Bhuttos' oew mansioo in England and on Mr Zardari's expensive hobby of collecting polo ponies.

In late October, stories began to circulate that Mr Zardari

In late October, stories began to circulate that Mr Zardari planoed to flee into exile. It turned out that he had only left for a short medical check-up in London, but the false rumour dented the Bhutto family's credibility even further. Even Mr Zardari's decision to shave off his rakish moustache was seen as proof he was plotting to slip out of the country incognito.

Did Mr Zardari order Murtaza's assassination? Uodeniably, the two hated each other. But at least two other theories on Murtaza's death are making the rounds: first, that the Karachi police at the roadblock were provoked into firing by Murtaza and his bodyguards. That is the nfficial version, but no police died in the supposed shoot-out.

A senior police nfficer and key witness was later found dead of a gunshot wound; police insisted it was suicide, but a coroner's report proved this would have been a feat of considerable gymnastics as he had

beeo shot from five feet away.
The second theory is one Ms
Bhutto clings to, that elements
within the Pakistani security
forces killed Murtaza and are
trying to pin the blame on Mr
Zardari as a way to trigger ber
demise. If Ms Bhutto is correct,
than her foes' plot has worked.



Inppled: Many Pakistanis think Ms Bhutto's marriage to Mr Zadari in 1987 was her biggest error Photograph: AFP

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# Suicide of sex-row QC shocks Australia

Sydney - Australian politics were in turnoil yesterday after a former judge committed sui-cide following allegations in parliament related to an inquiry

mto paedophiles. David Yeldham, 67, who formerly sat in the New South Wates Supreme Court, was found dead in his car at his nome in the up-market Sydney suburb of Hunters Hill. Police said there were no suspicious circumstances.

A QC who was married with three children and had four grandchildren, he had heen naken after Franca Arena, a Labor member, made a point-ed reference to him in the New South Wales state parliament ast week when she attacked the inquiry by a royal commission and accused it of giving preferential treatment to "promient people

Mrs Arenz has been waging a campaign against paedophil-is, claiming that top people in ia, claiming that top people in Australia have been spared serious examination during the

Mrs Arena has never pro-duced any evidence to sub-She asked in the Legislative Council in Sydney last week:

Robert Milliken on a new twist in a royal commission's inquiry into child abuse and corruption

"What about former Supreme stantiate her instituations, which court judge. David Albert Yeldham - was he, or was he not, in-

She added: "I am not insinuating anything about the char-acter of the former judge by naming him. I am only saying that this is an example of a person who appears to have been given preferential treatment when, for instance, Anglican

and Catholic bishops were not."

Mr Yeldham instantly defended himself. "I am not a pacpaedophile and I hate paedophilia," he said. "A terrible mistake must have been made by someone

Retiring in 1990 after 16 ers on the bench, Mr Yektham had taken up a post as director of the National Association for the Prevention of Child Abuse

Even before Mr Yeldham's suicide, MPs from both sides of poltties, including Bob Carr, New South Wales Prime Minister

tralia's political establishment.

and Labor leader, attacked her for abusing parliamentary priv-

The suicide has brought widespread calls for him to sack her. Dressed in black, and speaking in sombre tones, she appeared before the press yesterday and declared: "I have acted accord-

ing to my conscience." Mr Yeldham's death has also focused attention on one of Australia's most sensational, lengthy, controversial and most expensive public inquiries. The regal commission, conducted by Mr Justice James Wood, another Supreme Court judge, began in 1994 after pay New South Wales government to set up an mounty hud cor-

ruption in the state's police After exposing shocking corruption among top echelons, the nmission turned its attention to alleged police protection of paedophile rackets. But there have been strong attacks on the Marsden, a prominent lawyer. said at least muc people had committed suicide as a result of

### significant shorts

### US soyabean Nicaragua ship sailing into a storm

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Ideal Progress, the first ship carrying genetically modified soyabeans from the US, was due to dock at Hamburg. where it faced protests.

US harvesters of the beans, developed by Monsanto corporation to be resistant to one of its herbicides, are not separating them from normal ones and products made with them, including 30,000 foods, will not be labelled as such. Yet a survey for Greenpeace says 73 per cent of German consumers would avoid such products for now.

### Six tried over Baltic killings

Charles Arthur

Six Lithuanian former Communist leaders went on trial over the Soviet attempt to crush the independence movement and the killing of 13 people at the storming of . the Vilnius television tower by Soviet troops in January 1991. If convicted, they could face the death penalty. Adrian Bridge

# tense as poll dispute deepens

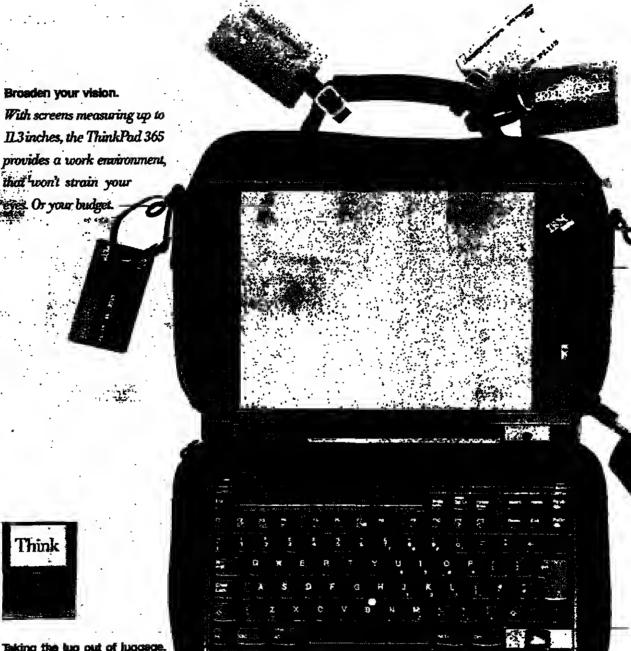
Tension rose in Nicaragua after the Sandinista National Liberation Front urged supporters to protest against alleged electoral fraud. Presidential elections were held 17 days ago but the result is yet to be given. In its strongest statement since the election, the Front also called for voting to be re-run in more than half the country. The statement raised fears of clashes between its supporters and those of the conservative Liberal Alliance, which appeared to have won the

### Sentence plea by activist

voté. Phil Davison

The dissident Wang Dan sentence of 11 years' jail for plotting to overthrow the government, a court official said, declining to elaborate. Peking Number One Intermediate People's Court took less than four hours last Wednesday to convict and sentence Mr Wang.

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# Despite the sleaze, Clinton heads for

# President shows fine taste for re-election

David Usborne Little Rock, Arkansas

Everything was ready, just in case. There was suspense in the steaming kitchen of Doe's Place yesterday morning but it had little to do with whether their most healthcare or muddle? famous (and famously greedy) customer, Bill Clinton, was going to win. Nobody doubted that. Rather, it was over whether he would answer their whether he would answer their might say. Anticipation whatever the postmortens of the first term might say. Anticipation

he's a busy man and we can forgive him that," said Lucille, bearing a gold-toothed grin. Of one thing, she is sure: if he does comes, he will eat and he will be cheeseburgers and fries, if it is for dinner, steak and shrimp. "He's still got a good appetite. A real good appetite."

were being counted, there was

invitation and drop by. The that the once-obscure governor meat patties and cheese squares of this still dog-patch state were ready for cooking and Lucille, the President's favourite chef, had come in with her hair perfectly coiffed.

"He hasn't replied yet, but the president of this still dog-patch state would achieve re-election—the first Democrat to be so rewarded since Franklin Roosevelt in 1944. And anticipation of monster-partying. Eight blocks down from Doe's, men in raked the last leaves from around the Old State House, the hackdrop for the expected victory speech. And few blocks will eat well. If it's lunchtime it further down, the bandstand was being prepared for the assorted stars in town to honour Mr Clinton. Top of the hill: crooner Tony Bennett.

Four years ago, when the votes for Clinton and Bush most of yesterday, making only one pre-result appearance - to cast his vote with the First Lady at the city's now disused Union Station. Perhaps he was resting his voice and his emosix-day swing through 18 states. More likely, he was simply girding for the exultant moment last evening that promised him

> The final moment of what must surely be the final cam-paign of his life came at Little Rock's Adam's Field airport when Air Force One finally bore the President home at 2.26 am. In a Guy Fawkes celebration all of their own, the throng of his hardiest supporters lit a blizzard of sparklers, and strained to catch a glimpse of their leader. We did not have to wait long.

Before even his aides get to summon the plane steps, there was the President sneaking a quick peek out at the crowd, like a child actor cracking open the again".

stage curtain to look for a par-ent in the audience. In a minute is descending the steps with Hillary and Chelsea.

There follows a few minutes of vintage Clinton.. In this moment he is the essence of candidate Bill, back on home turf, finding the love of his fans and drinking it in giant draughts.

It should, of course, be a homecoming marred by some acknowledgement of the dread-ful damage that his term has wrought on Arkansas's clite arising from Whitewater. But hack at Doe's, the own

er. George Eldridge, is indignant that the subject of Whitewater need even he raised. "People in this town are just sick of hearing about it. What is so ridiculous is that the President has never been even the slightest bit motivated by money or greed. But the Republicans can never let go. They just can't stand the fact that be is going to be President



Happy families: Bill Clinton kissing his daughter after his last rally in Sioux Falls, North Dakota

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# Struggle for

The presidential election hav-ing been ruled a no-contest almost from the moment Boh Dole won the Republican nomination, it is the elections for Congress that have been generating all the suspense.
Republican leaders in the

Senate and the House made plain in recent weeks that they were concentrating their energies on the congressional cause more than on the race for the White House.

What is at stake, at one lev-el, is whether a Clinton presidency will be more barnstrung than presidents usually are by an uncooperative legislature.

Such is the nature of the Constitution, fixated as the Founding Fathers were on preventing a return to "tyranny", that even if the Republicans lose both houses by a stender margin, their capacity to paralyse White House initiatives will re-

in political terms is whether Congress would be more or less energised to pursue investigations into Mr Clinton's alleged improprieties, including Whitewater and charges that the White House traded favours for Asian companies for campaign

contributions.

A Republican defeat in the House would wipe the grin off Newt Gingrich's face, whose removal from the Speakership would be the demise of his career, and would bring a smile of

relief from Mr Clinton. Not that investigations would be nipped in the bud, but with the President's allies holding all the committee chairs in the House, notably the committee on ethics, he would have reason to believe that the impending blows would be softer than they otherwise might have been. The Republicans set the

precedent with their investigations of the past year into the record of Mr Gingrich, who is alleged to have engaged in numerous abuses to steer money improperly to his party campaign coffers. First, the investigations were not conducted with the alacrity and rigour that might have been expected. that might have been expected had the Democrats been in charge. Second, the findings so far have been hedged in ambiguous language, allowing him the openings to retort that he has been more sinned agains

than sinning.
It is in the reasonable hope of receiving gentler treatment from a Democrat-led House Ihat Mr Clinton will have been watching the outcome of the congressional elections with more than usual presidential in-

As to legislation, members of Congress on both sides have been saying privately for much of this year that they have learnt their lesson from Mr Gingrich's failed "Contract with America". Any attempt to in-troduce radical changes, to set ahout a "revolution", are frowned upon by a fundamentally conservative electorate wary of politicians who seek to alter the status quo. The re-election quest eternally remaining uppermost in their minds,

A Republican defeat in the House would wipe the grin off Newt Gingrich's' face

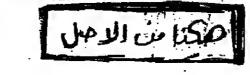
members of Congress have been warning their friends in Washington not to expect any-

thing big these next two years. Where the public is demanding significant change, however, is in the area of campaign-finance reform, which has assumed such national importance that it has ceased to be a partisan political issue. It will be intriguing to see whether Congress does finally seek to address this cancer al the heart of American politics, especially as this time round they can be certain of the President's support, for Mr Clinton will not be required to raise campaign

money again.

If legislation does not go through, as it may well not do, since congressional incumbents find it much easier to raise funds than their challengers, the one thing that may be said for sure is that the public's already profound discontent with their elected leaders will only deepen. All the more so if Congress manages successfully to sully President Clinton's historical





# Cynicism wins by a huge consensus

Washington

The conventional view of the US election is that the Artful Dodger, in Gore Vidal's description of Bill Clinton, defeated the guileless codger. That the slick, unprincipled politics of the president were always going to prove too much for good old plain-spoken Bob Dole.

Hence the question, thundered from Republican pulpits: "Whatever became of bonour, decency, integrity in American national life."

The answer is ready at hand. If you look closely at the thou-sands upon thousands of poils

### The economy is doing fine, Mr Clinton looks good, so why go for an out-oftouch old man?

and political focus group sessions that have been conducted the length and hreadth of America in the last year, you will discover that the runaway winner of the 1996 election was never going to be Mr Clinton or Mr Dole, Democrats or Republicans. The winner, by a huge bipartisan consensus, was cynicism, a perception that American politics are dirty, that politicians are crooks and hars.

Mr Dole, when he finally got around to defining bis electoral message, sold himself as a man of character, a man of his word - the president who would have restored upright values to the White House.

The message did not resonate because while the Republican faithful were all too ready to believe it, the nation as a whole did not. Or rather, they chose to see the moral difference between the two men as one of degree. The economy is doing fine. Mr Clinton looks good and talks well. So why go for an old man who, for all his heroism in the war, has, after all, spent the last 36 years of his life playing the sordid Washington game?

been driving conservative commentators to despair. William Safire, the New York Times columnist, has written about nothing else this last month, deploring "the absence of outrage" at the "shamelessness" of the Clinton administration.

The truth that many of the political partisans in Washington choose to ignore is that the public is outraged - but at both sides. Mr Dole might be the better man, but be inhabits the same cesspool as the president and has played by similar rules.

Let us consider briefly the litany of Mr Clinton's sins. There is Whitewater and our knowledge that he fraternised. at least, with a cabal of Arkansas thieves, there is Travelgate and the allegations that Hillary Clinton fired the staff of the White House travel office and replaced them with her chums from little Rock; there are the hundreds of FBI files the White House procured in what might have been an attempt to accumulate dirt on political rivals.

More recently, and this has been at the heart of Mr Safire's raging indignation, there have been reports of illicit campaign fund-raising in the Far East. And, hovering over everything - and far more familiar to the general public - there has been the president's near-inhaling and his history of philandering.

Now let us look at the record of Mr Dole. As for philandering. Mr Dole is no saint, Possihly, if the unverified stories are true. Mr Clinton has been more prolific, but Mr Dole did have an affair some 30 years ago, towards the end of his first marriage to a nurse at the hospital where he recovered from his grievous war wounds after the Second World War.

After Mr Clinton's affair with Gennifer Flowers, he kissed and made up with his wife. Mr Dole told his first wife it was all over with a typically terse "I want out" and abandoned her and his teenage daughter, begging the ques-tion, what, if anything, can Mr Dole teach Mr Clinton about family values"?

As to dirty politics, it is on the record that Mr Dole has been far from immune to the bland-The electorate's logic has ishments of hig business during

reputation for all-round excellence.

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Final salute: Bob Dole, with wife, Elizabeth, ends his campaign before the Harry Truman statua of Independence, in norates Truman's surprise, or 'upset', 1948 victory Photograph: Reuter

bis senatorial career. No company has contributed more campaign money to Mr Dole than the Gallo wine company. In exchange, Mr Dole went to great lengths to introduce legislation specifically, and successfully, aimed at improving Gallo's profits. Mr Dole also

used his position to bolster the husiness of Archer Daniels Midland, a giant food company, which reciprocated not only by way of large campaign do-nations. In 1982, the chief executive of Archer Daniels sold a condominium in Florida where Mr Dole spent last night

watching the election returns to bim at below market price. If Mr Clinton was at a disadvantage on the moral terrain, it was partly because he chose not attack Mr Dole personally - itself no so much an honourable calculation as one based on focus-group testing,

which shows the public is repelled by negative campaigning.
If the character question is dead in Americans' electoral

calculations, it is not Mr Clinton who is to blame. Politically ignorant as the US public may he, when they say they re all the same", their instincts are good.

# Weary old warrior ends last crusade

Rupert Comwell Washington

The old soldier's last campaign ended yesterday, where the first one began all of 45 years ago when be first hecame a representative in the Kansas state legislature. Bob Dole was back in Russell, casting his vote in a Presidential election he seemed destined to lose by a

What probably were the final hours of Mr Dole's political career, spent mostly in the deep night of the American Midwest, have been surreal - a mixture of a campaign's obligatory optimism and a candidate's lacerating honesty as sheer weariness strips away his ability to pretend. "I've done what I can do - all I can do. Nothing I can say will change what will happen today."

For 96 hours before Russell, Mr Dole had whirled across the country, logging 10,534 miles that had taken him to 29 railies in 20 states, with bardly a pitstop. Sometimes his voice virtually gave out, in Houston his campaign plane Citizenship had a flat tyre, but still he kept going, driven by little more than pride and the desire to prove that at 73-years-young he could cope with a schedule that had reporters half his age wilting and buckling with

Earlier he had paid the obligatory stop 200 miles to the west in Independence, Missouri, home town of Harry Truman, patron saint of electoral victories snatched. from seemingly certain defeat. It was 3 o'clock in the morning, hut 2,500 people were on hand to listen.

"The tide is rolling all over the country," Mr Dole pro-claimed, standing in front of the great man's statue outside the old courthouse and using words Truman used during his legendary surge to victory over Thomas Dewey in 1948. "I have seen it in other people's faces. The people are going to win the

the miracle would eclipse even. Truman's feat of 48 years ago - him.

for a century or more. In that year, "Give 'em bell" Harry turned around a deficit of 13 per cent in August, which had shrunk to 5 per cent in the final published poll, some three weeks before the election. This time Mr Clinton held a double digit lead right up to voting day.

And in his wry, self-mocking fashion, the candidate himself seemed to acknowledge his fate: "I don't believe in the polls, but I'll tell you about the good ones." But the tour, and the headlines it has generated, have already prompted wishful thinking in the Republican campaign: if only, if only. If only Mr Dole had done something like this earlier, when there was

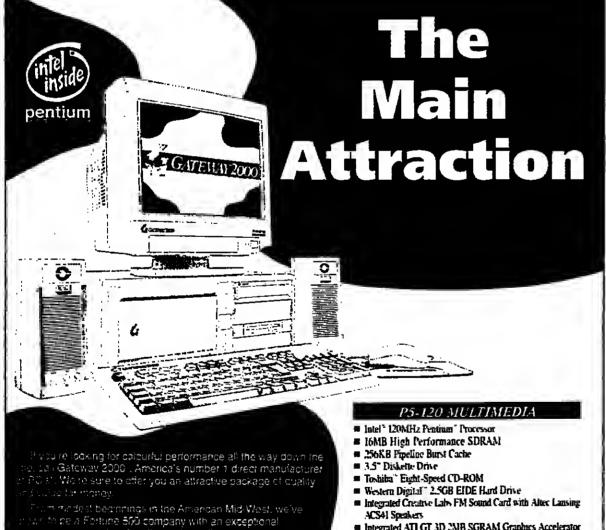
In his wrv. self-mocking fashion, Dole himself seemed to acknowledge his fate'

still time. In these last 24 bours the ordeal has been taking a visible toll, not just on Mr Dole, who has kept going on biscuits water, throat spray and a herbal tea called Throat Coat, but on his wife Elizabeth

Even so, and despite the candidate's croaking voice that cut his stump speech to a bare 10 minutes his sometimes dispirited demeanour, the odyssey bas acquired an eleciac tone. "This is the last crusade of a great warrior," Schator John McCain of Arizona told a rally at Des Moines, Iowa, shortly after midnight, as the candidate stood behind him, blinking back tears.

"He is one of a generation of Americans who went out and made the world safe for democracy, so that ourselves and our children could have far better lives ... be returned to a life of service, not only for the people of Kansas but the people of this country." In 1996, Mr Dole's If Mr Dole does so however, generation may have been one as miracle would eclipse even of the factors which doomed

a surprise that would discredit. \* But as a politician's epitaph, the opinion polling industry there could be no finer.



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# international

Conflict in Zaire: Urgent calls for intervention

# Looters move in as refugees flee rebel force

Mary Braid Goma

In the shadow of the giant volcanoes that dominate eastern Zaire's border with Rwanda, the rebel soldier's uniform seemed particularly shabby. But his eyes shone with conviction.

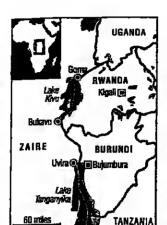
President Mobutu has done nothing for our country," he said. "Zaire is rich and yet our people are so poor he did nothing to develop it. We have come to liberate our entire country and all the people in it."

In the main street, just a few hundred yards away, the liberated were doing a little final looting in shops and interna-tional aid organisation offices. Buildings were first ransacked at the weekend when the Zairean troops were run out of town. Goma was the third main town in eastern Zaire to fall to the newly formed Alliance of Dcmocratic Forces for the liberation of Congo Zaire.

For two days, Goma's new military leaders had been cleaning up, before allowing journalists to cross the piece of string, slung between a peeling wrought irou chair and a bamboo stick, which marks the beginning of the border crossing on the banks of Lake Kivu.

But the blood-stained floors yesterday were evidence of war with estimates of hundreds dead. In Goma's main street. looters trampled over discarded Zairean banknotes, worthless in this collapsing country where inflation is 7,000 per cent.

Small wonder that everyone seemed to be stealing something. Children struggled home with boxes of biscuits stamped United Nations High Commission for won the civil war. In three evil Refugees, and in the main street people crowded round UN lorries for food and fresh water, once destined for the millions of Rwandan Hutu refugees whose arrival in Zaire in 1994 triggered the crisis now engulfing the re-gion and threatening the security of central Africa.



Of the Rwandan refugees there was no sign, but more than 700,000 of them are believed to

be trapped between battle lines. The humanitarian disaster facing them is the latest stage of the nightmare which began in 1994 with the genocide of Rwanda's minority Tutsi population by the majority Hutus. Two million Hutus fled the country when the Tutsi army

Nairobi, (Reuter) - African leaders called for the urgent deployment of a neutral force in eastern Zaire to protect more than a million refugees dependent on a UN Security Council decision.

The one-day summit, which was not attended by any Zairean representative, called on the UN Secretary-General, Boutros Boutros-Ghali, and the Secretary-General of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), Salim Ahmed Salim to co-ordinate on the proposed move.

months, they wiped out 800,000 Tutsis, and they feared reprisals. Many refugees who tugged the international heart-strings were themselves perpetrators of one of the worst atrocities in recent history; the extremists who masterminded genocide have continued to create havoc. They regional war."

turned the refugee camps into militia bases from which to hir at the new Rwandan government, and in Zaire they esca-lated persecution of Tutsis who

had lived there for generations. Yesterday, Robert Gribbin, US Ambassador to Rwanda, said the refugees had been a key element to regional destabilisation, and the need for their repatriation is now the orthodoxy.

Yesterday Andre Kassasse Ngandu, Goma's new military leader, said the refugees must leave so the rebels could abandon the ceasefire they called on Monday and resume their fight with the Zairean government.

The Zairean government bred discontent by denying Zairean Hutus and Tutsis citizenship in 1981, but it was the Hutu camp militias that encouraged local politicians to or-der local Tutsis to leave the country or be killed. The seeds of revolt were sown. Despite Rwandan government denials. most observers believe that, faced with Hutu threats on its own border, it has helped and even orchestrated the uprising.

But Zaire's insurrection is unlikely to subside if the refugees go home. The rebels insist they will take Kinshasa though they may have to build a road to get there for the country is ruined after 30 years of Mobutu rule; roads have been reclaimed by the jungle and communications are almost non-existent.

Eastern Zaire's rebels have support from other regions. "I come from Shaba province," revealed the soldier with the shabby uniform. "Many of us come from Shaba and also from Kasai." Both provinces are already virtually independent of

Mr Ngandu says President Mobutu's return from Europe, where he has been receiving treatment for cancer, will change nothing. "He is termi-nally ill and finished as a political force. This is not just a



Flag of pride: International Brigade veterans Sam Russell, left, from England, and Jager Martin from Germany, next to a monument unvolled yesterday to honour their fellow fighters who died in the Spanish Civil War from 1936-39

Photograph: Sergis Perez/Reuter

# Hong Kong passport security row

Hong Kong

Concern is being expressed by Home Office officials over the security of passports to be issued in Hoog Kong next year which will provide visa-free access to

These concerns are linked to a brewing scandal in the colony over the sudden resignation of Lawrence Leung, the former Director of Immigration who negotiated a deal with the Chinese authorities under which what will become known as the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR) passport will be produced by Hong Kong's largest pro-Peking publishing and printing honse.

It had been thought that the It had been thought that the

the De La Rue passport-print-ing plant in Dunstable, or possibly to the former De La Rue bank note factory in Hong Kong, now owned by the. colony's Monetary Authority.

However, at the end of last ear, Mr Leung travelled to Peking, where he reached an agreement for the new passports to be made by the Hong Kong Commercial Safety Printing Company, which has no previous passport-making experi-ence. The concern centres not on the ability of the company to make international-standard passports, but on the level of security in their distribution

cess for a trial period of two years, but the Foreign Office has been actively encouraging other countries to accept the doc-ument and provide equally relaxed entry rights to Hong Kong residents.

When John Major announced the visa-free arrangements last March, he was met by a storm of protest from Conservative MPs worried by an influx of Hong Kong residents. Fears were also expressed over the administration of travel documents issued by a Chinesecontrolled government.

This is particularly a problem. If and begin strong that take carry serirement, which for Britain, for not only has it announced that SAR passportcerned over the printing of the Trather than the customary pe-

ministration is severely embarrassed by suggestions that the new passport may get into the hands of persons who are not entitled to hold it.

At least one Commonwealth country is understood to have made strong representations on this matter because it was led to believe that the new passports would be produced in the same way that existing Hong Kong travel documents are produced, and not by a company which is closely linked to China.

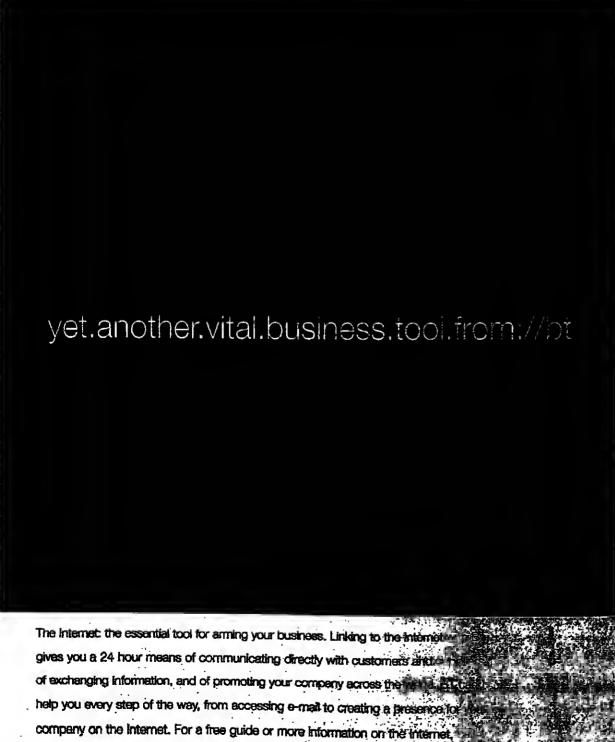
Hong Kong legislators are poised to start an investigation into the circumstances of Mr Leung's sudden decision to

liamentary privilege, some legis-lators have aired allegations about Mr Leung which have ap-

peared in newspapers.

He was well-known to have unusually good contacts with the Chinese authorities and was accused of passing information to them which would have damaged the security of dissidents and members of the civil service who have secretly applied for

British citizenship. The Home Office said production of the passports was a matter for the Hong Kong government. However, a spokeswoman said: "As far as security goes, the British immigration services have the best record in the world for the detection of -fake travel documents."

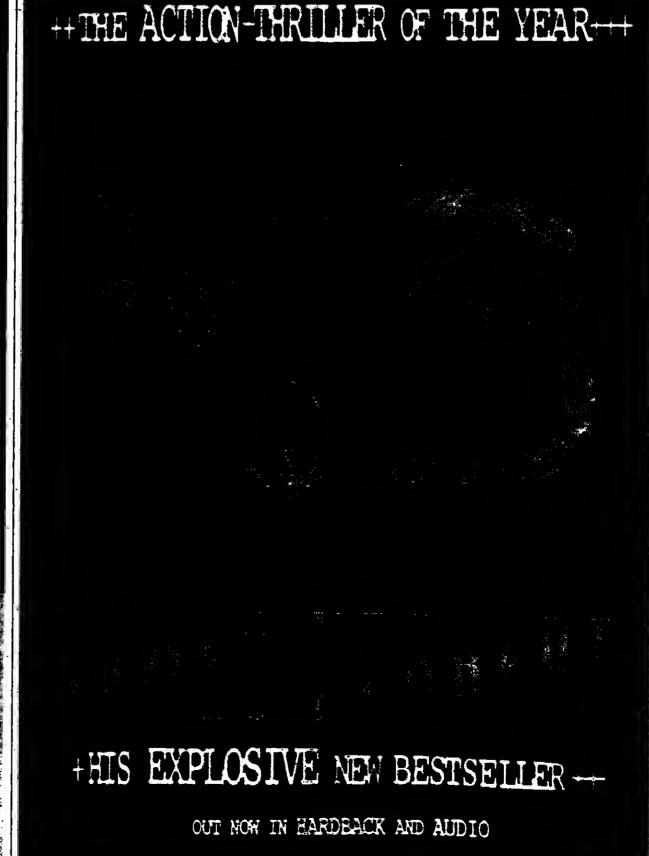


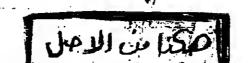
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# the leader page

# Beware, big business is watching you

telly last night? Remember the plot of Robocop, or Blade Runner, or Alien? Many of our most popular science fiction films have a recurring theme - the corporate giant who proves to be the unseen hand that rules the world. And these stories are generally intended as reflections on the present day, just as George Orwell's 1984 was written as a reflection of life in 1948. Orwell took the implications of "100 per cent Americanism" in the US (the ideology that led to McCarthyism), and Stalinism in the Soviet Union and ended up with Big Brother and the Min-istry of Love. Were he to write today a book called 2069 to reflect life in 1996 he might well choose to build a story of

A CONTRACTOR OF THE SERVICE OF THE S

corporate rather than political power. Of course, we've always known that these fantasies are just that: overstated extensions of a trend towards big business power, but oo real reflection of how life is lived. But hold on a minute: how close are we to corporate totalitarianism? Some might say it is closer than we think. And events this week might provide them with at least a lit-

tle indicative evidence. The industrialised world at the end of the 20th century is often referred to as an era of deregulation, privatisation, globalisation, and - in theory as a result of these three things – growing competition. But a quick glance at the merger now planned by British Telecom, the

curples of men such as Ropert Mundoch and Bill Gates, seems to tell a rather dif-ferent story. These powerful corporate



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and Pell Gates, scens to tell a rather different story. These powerful desperate networks straddle rathoned behaldings, and scenth brangle described to the first of the core of a rather distinting trend sowards comming actions grains who sout above democratic authors for the first who south above domocratic authors for the first with the first who south for the first who was a property of the first who was a property of the biggest US authors with the biggest US authors who was a property of the biggest US authors who was a property of the biggest US authors for the first who was a south beautiful with the plobal market place.

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new international conglomerates are emerging to deal with them.

But globalised companies need not necessarily mean national monopolies. BT's links with MCI should not affect the level (or lack) of competition in the British telecommunications marhet at all. Admittedly when all the playors are big guys, it is much harder for new entrepreneurs to break into the game. However, so long as there are several big global companies compet-ing in the British market to offer us phone lines, Internet connections, television entertainment, and so on, then consumers should not suffer too much. within countries, and appropriate co-ordination of regulatory regimes across countries, the nightmare of comporate totalitarismiste will remain a Hollywood nightmare. Big boys may run the game, but good regulation should easter that the little children can play too, and, with a bit of lack, keep on the big boys' heels.

Only, there is a catch. Maistaining

competition and protecting consumers depends on active government and astute politicisms. Politicisms in many countries are oblivious of both the opportunities and the dangers, because they are unable to grapple with the domestic implications of multinational deal-making. The often, also, they are too intimidated by the power of the communications giants. Plenty of politicians and political parties have always sat in the pockets of big vested husiness interests. But with competing interests, com-peting politicisms, and a free press, the public can still find out what is going on and vote corrupt culprits out. But in the modern media age, all politicians depend on the companies that control the communication network - and they are beholden in a way that is almost unprecedented in democratic political history.

The role of government and of good democratic politicians is to defend the public interest against overwhelming private interests from one side or another. The dangers of political totalitarianism, where politicians use the state to control countries in their own interest, seem remote to Western democracies these days. But we rely oo politicians to regulate the global market to protect us against corporate lotalitarianism too and it isn't clear any more that they are able or willing to do so. Total Recull is still a daft tale - but a sensitive mind could be forgiven for reading it as an ominous warning.

### You have to be ruthless, Auntie

The BBC produced 230 promises of good behaviour yesterday. Most were repeats. The corporation promises to be tasteful, decenl, and impartial. It will curb violence and had language, even when those are necessary to interview politicians properly.

John Birt, announcing these promises and principles, called his employers "the world's greatest cultural institution". The World's Greatest Cultural Institution has spent more than £430,000 on this manifesto, which as well as 230 promises contains five principles and 10 pledges, all expounded with the help of pinnacles of excellence ranging from Chris Evans to Wallace and Gromit. If the Labour Party can get its manifesto on the back of a credit card, surely the BBC can manage a little editing?

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Altered Street, as a solub

Why Africa doubts US peace plan Sir: As suggested in your leader of 30 October, the Zaire-Burundi-Rwanda situatioo has clearly gone

military intervention from outside would be either feasible or In the longer run a peace force may well, as you say, be the best hope for Africa's future but there are good reasons for African states, especially South Africa, to treat the American offer to back a Sub-Saharan "Crisis Response Force"

beyond the point where direct

I was in South Africa during the State and had the opportunity to discuss the issue with key South Africans before the meetings with

Warren Christopher. Already there is a tendency on the part of the other states in the region to regard South Africa as potentially the United States' agent oo the continent. For this and other reasons the country's leadership will resist the role of US

surrogate. The suggestion that the US would fund a separate force outside the authority of the while at the same time being in arrears with its contributions to the international organisation, was not well received, especially in the light of America's declared intention to veto Africa's candidate for the next term as UN Secretary-General,

Boutros Ghali. Other concerns about active military participation in peace-keeping relate to South Africa's preparedness in military and financial terms for an indefinite or otherwise ill-defined commitment Fear of a "Victnam-type situation" is now perhaps more of an issue than the preparedness of the recently integrated South African National Defence Force (SANDF) for operations in politically sensitive situations such as Angola

or Burundi. Even so, the preference is for humanitarian and medical assistance and technically specialised activities such as landmine clearance, which South Africa is particularly well equipped to do.

Because of the progressive and necessary restrictions on South Africa's defence budget, the American proposal was financially tempting, but South Africa would clearly prefer: broader-based support for building on its own initiatives for conflict anticipation and prevention within the recently formed Association of Southern African States (ASAS) and under the general authority of the UN.

In view of the composition of ASAS membership, and thepeacekeeping experience of Commonwealth armies, there would be scope for collective Commonwealth participation. This has been canvassed as a possibility in some South African quarters.

But failing or combined with that, there seems to be a real opportunity for Britain, France and other states of the European Union to develop a special relationship with Sub-Saharan Africa led by South Africa, which could be mutually advantageous in economic as well as strategic peace-maintaining terms. Professor WILLIAM GUTTERIDGE Director, Research Institute for the Study of Conflict and . Terrorism London W1

# • LETTERS TO THE EDITOR •



### Clearing the air on fireworks

Sir: Things that go bang unexpectedly cause disorientation and loss of judgement. This applies both to the sun grenade and to comment on matters related to fireworks ("Deregulation blamed for Chinese-made peril", 5

November).

As a result of a couple of recent and most regrettable fatal accidents involving fireworks, cries are going up for more control, but reason is being cast to the winds and unrelated subjects are being confused = It has been announced that the

two fireworks involved were made in China, and that their importation should therefore be more controlled. There are two rational arguments for more control of such imports: the first is that the Chinese tend to incorporate pyrotechnic compositions which are considered to be dangerously sensitive by British standards inotably the admixture of chlorates and sulphur) and the econd is that their relative heapness represents mareasonable competitioo to The Government's decision to deregulate the importation of

be dangerous, and is accordingly to On the other hand, the fireworks which caused the fatalities were mortar shells. These are fired at a steep angle from barrels, usually made of cardboard and typically between three and eight-inch bore.

responsible for the marketing of

some Chinese fireworks which may

The integral propellant charge, consisting of enough gunpowder lift them a few hundred feet into the air before they burst, is ignited by a fuse extending out of the muzzle, where it can be ignited by hand or by remote electrical means. There is nothing specifically Chinese about such

fireworks. Now, in the spirit of the present movement to ban firearms, there will no doubt be unjustifiable demands for firework mortar shells being banned too: it might more reasonably be argued that the use of such fireworks should be restricted to people with a

There is, however, absolutely no ustification in demonising Chinese-made fireworks because somebody places his face in front of a gun barrel when it is about to

DESIDNEY ALFORD Corsham, Wiltshire

### Dylan no match for his wife

Sir: Robert Vincent says that Dylan Thomas was "horrid" to his wife (letter, 5 November). Maybe he was sometimes, but Caitlin Thomas could be just as horrid back. When it came to a physical fight, she always won. In fact they loved each other deeply and their real fight was against poverty. ADRIAN MITCHELL London NW5

### GPs forced to let down patients

Sir: As a general practitioner, I am always glad when debate about the future of the bealth service receives the prominence it should have, but the net effect of your most recent articles and correspondence is profoundly disheartening.

Only seven years ago, general practice was a satisfying and popular career choice for able doctors who valued its independence and its potential for personal patient care and the advocacy of individual needs. Now the profession is in crisis. We are expected to be disbonest brokers in an under-resourced system which

has lost all sense of direction. The right-wing think-tanks that willed and produced this result have been replaced by bodies like the Institute for Public Policy Research and the Social Market Foundation,

whose letters you have printed. At least the old right-wingers were honest about their intentions and pointed out that NHS funding from general taxation depressed health spending beceath the levels of other western societies. Unlike Stephen Pollard of the

Social Market Foundation, they had a faint smattering of historical knowledge and knew that the Labour Party's 19th-century roots lay in an awareness that friendly and mutual societies could oever begin to tackle the basic oceds of every individual for medical and social care, especially as such needs are inversely related to individual

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income. To talk about the NHS's problems as purely organisational or to see NHS/private-sector cooperation as the way forward, is fine if you accept that the devil is welcome to take the hindmost in

our society. Unfortunately, these hindmost individuals - the elderly, the unemployed, the less able of all kinds - keep on coming to our surgeries. They all seem to have unrealistic expectations of what an advanced society at the end of the 20th century should be able to

Operations? You'll go oo to the waiting list when it re-opens next April. A handrail and bath aids for your elderly mother? Occupational therapy can't accept new referrals at present. Heart disease? No investigation possible until the end of next year. And so on. What unites these hindmost

individuals with their better-off fellow patients is anger and bafflement that a system they believe in can let them down when they most need it. And this for lack of money, which they would gladly pay if they knew that it would be spent on the health service. Given that no political party has

the courage or the honesty to support the best option - increased redistributive general taxation - bypothecated health tax must be the only answer. Or a final abandonment of the whole notion that society should look after its ill people on an equitable basis. DI RICHARD LEHMAN Banbury, Oxfordshire

### Bigger turbines a desecration

Sir: Tricia Allen of Friends of the Earth, (Letters, 1 November) "corrects" my figure of 40,000 wind turbines, which originates from the Department of Industry's Renewable Energy Advisory Group. Reducing the oumber to 10,000 demands auge machines, each generating more than one megawatt and over 200 feet high. Ludicrously she compares these

turbines with the windmills which once adorned our countryside. Mill sails rarely exceeded 80 feet in diameter and the total height of the structure was little more than this. Almost without exception they

were in the lowlands.
The turbines would be in the uplands, on hill summits and plateaux, their 150ft aerofoils raised on concrete towers.

Look at the 103 flickering crecifizions of Llandinam, Imagine them twice as large. Ms Allen invites 100 such descerations of the western uplands for a saving of C02 emission which could be matched within a year by an organised programme of energy conservation. IOHN ETHERINGTON Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire

### Sizzling Sixties?

Sir: Stephen Magill's interpretatioo of the womeo's hall of residence. which contained 80 hedrooms all without locks, may be naive (letter, 5 November). Since it was built in 1968, it may not represent a golden age of crime-free Britain so much as the Summer of Love. LIZ GOLDING Orwell, Cumbridgeshire

for Clinton

Three cheers

Sir: Far from ending the American century with a whimper (leading article, 4 November), a Clinton victory signals an exening time for the centre-left across the industrialised world

By bringing the budget deficit under control, Mr Clinton has shown that the centre-left can be trusted with a modern economy. During Mr Clinion's years io the White House, more than 10 million jobs have been created, business investment has grown rapidly, the growth rate has outstripped that of he Reagan and Bush years and

interest rates have fallen. Real disposable incomes rose by 4.9 per ceot in the third quarter of remain subdued. Mr Clinton has achieved that which has eluded Conservatives in both the United States and the United Kingdom -

an investment-led recovery.
Yet the significance of a Clinton rictory is in the battle of ideas. Monetarism has been put to sleep. Active government has won. Progressive policies such as the Earned Income Tax Credit, the school-to-work scheme and the raising of the minimum wage have helped ordinary Americans into work with decent wages.

Mr Clinton has proved that by giving people the tools to succeed in a fast-changing world economy, government does have a positive and active role in society. And that is of importance to the progressive cause around the world. Three cheers, not whimpers, for Mr Clinton. DAVID-JOHN COLLINS Groombridge, Kent

### 'Missing' MPs were paired

Sir: Polly Toynbee's conspiracy theory about the "mysterious absence" of two Labour MPs for a crucial vote on the recent Broadcasting Bill makes interesting reading ("Will Parliament resist Rupert's grip?", 4 November).

However, as one of the "absent" MPs, I have to disappoint her. Had she had the courtesy to check with me, she would have discovered that I was in Luxembourg with the Public
Accounts Committee investigating European Fraud and that I was paired with Conservative MP Nick Hawkins. The other Labour MP was also paired, attending to legitimate parliameotary business. My understanding is that the only opposition MP absent for the vote without a pair was the Liberal Democral.

ANGELA EAGLE, MP (Wallasey, Lah) House of Commons London SWI

### Unfair on fares

Sir. With reference to Matthew Nimmo's letter on benefit rules (29 October), last year I was unemployed and claiming benefit. I registered with an agency for casual labouring work and worked for two or three days a week. I was paid £25 a day for my work and spent £6 a day on travelling expenses. When I told the benefit office.

they promptly deducted that amount from my benefit but made no allowance for my (documented) travelling expenses. This meant I lost £6 from my weekly income for each day I worked. What price honesty? KÉVIN PETTY Middlesex University London N17

# America expects the old Clinton deal

Unlike the last Democrat to be re-elected, Franklin D Roosevelt, Bill Clinton is mediocre, insincere and irresolute. He's not even a liberal: there'll be no New Deal in his second term. **But America** doesn't seem to be grumbling, says Rupert Cornwell

o, it seems, Bill Clinton has climbed his last mountain. For the first time since Roosevelt, 60 years ago, a Democrat has been re-elected to the White House. For many Americans, it has been a slightly queasy experience. Thus far, the man they are returning to power has heen no FDR, hut a mediocre President, who on occasion is uplifting and purposeful, but often insincere, opportunistic, and

Always he is dogged by scan-dal. No President, not even Richard Nixon, has been so scrutinised and psychoanalysed; hut despite a score of Clinton books, not to mention a bestselling novel, the 42nd President remains an enigma, ever capable of reinvention. Is he a liberal, a centrist, a pragmatist without principle - or all three?

The conservative talk-radio hosts, who hate him, have no doubt that a Clinton liberated from the need to win elections will metamorphose back into the liberal they insist he has been all along. Almost certainly, they are wrong. The reasons are intee, two and one personal. Whichever party controls

Capitol Hill will probably do so the deficit will start to climb by a slender margin. If the uncontrollahly from 1997. And Republicans retain a majority in both Senate and House (which shamed by the Indonesian/seems probable), then a Demo- Taiwanese follies and the con-

cratic President and a hostile Congress will be forced to do business - as they have done, productively and to the broad approval of the ordinary voter, for the past six months. The fruits include welfare reform, a sweeping telecommunications Bill and a modest extension of

healthcare coverage. In the best of all worlds, that co-operation would hroaden into a hipartisan deal to rem in Medicare and Medicaid, whose projected runaway future growth has been the great unmentioned of Campaign '96. These past few weeks, Clinton has made much of the fact that during his term the deficit has shrunk from \$290bn to \$107bn. harring a deal on the two federal entitlement programmes, who knows: respectively

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viction of Bob Dole's finance vice-chairman for money laundering, Democrats and Republicans might just cleanse the Augean stable of campaign financing. But, as they say in these parts, don't bet the ranch

But even the return of a Democratic Congress should not greatly scare the talk-show brigade. Any Democratic majority, in either chamber, will be tiny. In both House and Senate, the balance of power is likely to lie in the centre, among con-servative Democrats and moderate Republicans.

Second, do not underestimate the restraining force of Al Gore, the counsellor to whom most influential Vice-President of modern times. Mr Gore is no liberal; and more important, has every intention of dropping the "Vice" from his job description come 2001. That ambition would be wrecked were Clinton, whom he has served with unflinching loyalty, were to embark on a liberal binge.

Third, there is Clinton himself. At the tender age of 50, he is already in the glowing late afternoon of a political career, a moment when statesmen ponder their place in history. The America entering the new millennium is if anything more conservative than the one he took over in 1992. Clinton wants to be remembered as the symbol of his era. He is also a man who craves affection, who prefers to swim with tides

rather than, Thatcher-like, fight his way upstream.

Hence the relentless centrist of the past two years, who from the healthcare reform déhâcle of 1994 has learnt where "liberal" interventionist hubris can lead. From the wreckage emerged the man who stole every popular Republican policy in sight, to the point of signing a Bill that jettisoned the federal welfare guarantee dating back to Franklin Roosevelt and the New Deal - before vowing, in the Clinton tradition of seeking to have it both ways, to correct the measure's cruellest

excesses in a second term. For the rest, a few clues may de gleaned from campaign speech. He will seek modest tax cuts, to help people to send their children to university, and buy their first home. There will be incentives for companies to take on workers previously on welfare; perhaps a small further measure of gun control; sundry small "pro-family" measures.

hut look closely into the glistening torrent of words, and for solid proposals you will find only minnows. As he pro-claimed in his State of the Union speech last January, "The era of hig government is over." We should not expect a burst of legislation, like the one initiated by FDR in 1933the famous "hundred days" that culminated in the New Deal, which hrought political

As always, the rhetoric soars:

stability to the entire industrialcapitalist system. Still, Clinton the policy freak

must fill the void; hence the enthusing on the campaign about research into cancer genes and severed spinal cords. and a computer under development by the US Government and IBM which "can do more calculations in one second than you can do on your handheld calculator in 30,000 years." It was vintage Clinton, futuristic and inspirational, but ultimately signifying next to nothing. For Ronald Reagan's ill-defined "shining city on a hill", read the present incumbent's "Bridge to the 21st century".

Clinton, with all his imperfections, is a man of his time. He leads an America at relative peace with itself and the rest of the world, an America of diminished expectations - not least regarding the presidency. Obscured by the posturing and promises of both candidates is the fact that an American President has far less power in the domestic arena than a French President, a British Prime Minister or a German Chancellor. He can blow up the world, but he cannot set interest rates or impose a budget; least of all can he fend off the recession that one day will end what is now the third longest US recovery since the Second World War. Since

have been scripted by the Clin-

ton/Gore campaign. Sooner or later it will turn against him, fur-

ther impeding his room for manocuvic. Small wonder, then, that second terms generally disappoint. His last election behind him, a President can take chances he otherwise might not. More often, a combination of exhaustion and arrogance take their toll. Within a couple of years, mid-term elections usually produce congressional losses for the party that controls the White House and weaken the President's authority. By that point the lame duck has

ecome a virtual dead duck. And look not for sweeping preferred theatre of secondterm Presidents. The main one has probably already been vouchsafed: his campaign pledge that by 1999 Nato will have been enlarged, whatever diminished fears but also of the objections of the Russians. It is now an open secret that, contrary to previous assurances, some American troops will stay on in Bosnia into 1997. With the election over, Clinton may consent to a compromise over the tenure of Boutros Boutros-Ghali at the UN: maybe, now that the Jewish lobby need no longer be placated, he will get tough with Benjamin Netanyahu. He may aspire to be a peacemaker, hut his greatest legacy would be a durable framework for relations with China, just as Ronald Reagan

the former red-batter is remem-

bered above all for his second term decision to "engage" Moscow a policy which ulti-mately led to the collapse of the Soviet Union.

But firm predictions are impossible. The fractured, imposeinte. The fractured, multi-polar world of the post-Cold War era does not lend itself to grand designs, while the Clinton mettle has not yet been tested by a hot war. And if the occupant of the White House does not change, his foreign policy team probably will. The Secretary of State, Warren Christopher, the Defense Sec-retary, William Perry and the National Security Adviser, Anthony Lake, may all shortly leave the administration.

Then there are the scandals. If 1996 has a parallel, it is less Reagan 1984 than Nixon 1972, when an incumbent's massive victory was followed within two years by resignation and disgrace. By no stretch of the imagination is Whitewater another Watergate, hut assuming the Republicans cling to even one chamber of Congress, then old land deals in Arkans improper purloining of FBI House travel office, and now the squalid saga of foreign financial contributions to Democratic party coffers, are enough to keep half a dozen congressional committees in

husiness for years.

Before yesterday, the Republicans were vowing no let-up, and Ross Perot was even warning that the President would face criminal charges, and should have resigned already to spare his country further agony. Perhaps the investigative ardour will slacken now that the election is past. But for the White House, the Chinese water torture of revelation and inquiry will continue, from

which only defence attorneys will emerge the richer. The administration may dismiss events on Capitol Hill as a partisan witch-hunt. Far harder to brush off are the labours of the special prosecutor Kenneth Starr, who has already secured convictions against several Clinton business associates in Little Rock. Starr says he is making "substantial progress" in his investigations. which might conceivably lead to an indictment of Hillary Clinton for perjury and concealing evidence before a grand jury. Separately, the Supreme Court will shortly rule whether the against Clinton by the former Arkansas state employee Paula Jones may go ahead before he leaves office. If it does, then the tabloidisation of the presidency will be complete.

Hence the vague yet wide-spread queasiness, which does not need a Ross Perot to articulate it. Clinton's entire career has been a continuing cycle of success, disaster and recovery. Indeed this hugely talented, yet hugely flawed child of the late 20th century seems unable to exist without adversity. If the pattern holds, he is now due for a fall - and a big one.

On the Edge was the title of one of the best of the books about the Clinton first term. If he remains halfway true to himself, then his second will be

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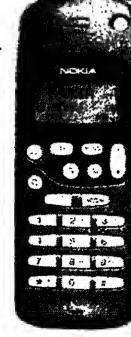
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# I'll be in Fiji, hiding from the 21st century writes: No, possibly not. In any case, the way things

1991, the economic cycle might



Miles Kington

am very glad to welcome back the well-known modern historian Professor Norman Hunter-Gatherer, who has agreed to answer all your questions about the modern condition. All yours, Prof!

I am very interested in the approaching furote about the millennium, Professor. It is being treated as if it were somehow a great turningpoint, yet all that is going to happen is that the number of the year is going to change, which happens every year anyway. The fact that all the

digits are going to change instead of the usual one or two is not really relevant, any more than it is significant when our car's mileometer goes from 99,999 to 100,000. And yet we are spending millions of pounds on this notional change! People are already booking hotels on the tip of New Zealand so they can be the first to greet the new century! Isn't this all rather ridiculous, especially as in many non-Christian parts of the world, where they measure the passing of the years differently, it may not be the millennium at all! I don't know how the Jews or Muslims measure the passage of time, but it might well be the year 2397 or something to them. The world of Islam won't be very interested in

the year 2000 if it isn't the year 2000, will they? Professor Hunter-Gatherer writes: You have a good point

On the other hand, the world of Islam, especially its more militant wing, may well take advantage of our millennium. I tell you, if I were a militant Muslim. I would say to myself that the day of the Millennium would be a very good day to invade

Christendom! The one day in a thousand years when everyone is off-duty - when everyone in the Christian world is either celebrating or recovering from a hangover, or sitting at home watching the party on TVI The world of Islam could just walk in and take over! Don't you think so?

Professor Hunter-Gatheren writes: It's certainly a thought. Though I suppose you have to remember that the millennium, whenever it starts and ends, will start and end at midnight, which is not the best possible time for an invasion by anyone. Can you imagine a military operation timed to start at midnight? It sounds doomed to me.

In any case, surely this millennium changeover is only another version of New Year's Eve on a bigger scale, New Year's Eve writ large? As such, the prospect is horrendous. We all know what New Year's Eve is like: crowds of riotous young people being sick and splashing about in the water m Trafalgar Square. Would anyone in his right mind invade right then? And have to clear up the mess?

Professor Hunter-Gatherer

are going, a lot of us are not going to be looking forward to the next century. We don't see much cause for celebration, and are not inclined to believe very much in progress. We won't be waving flags, just keeping our fingers crossed. We won't be booking hotel bedrooms in New Zealand so that we can be the first in the next century - more likely we will be booking bedrooms in Fiji or somewhere just the other side of the International Date Line so that we can be the last people on earth still to be in the old 20th century! Makes sense, doesn't it? Professor Hunter-Gatherer writes: I can see your point.

Talking about nostalgia, as we come up to Remembrance Day, poppies are yet again being sold for us to wear on this day - except to those of us who had the foresight to keep our poppies safe from last year! and it strikes me not for the first time what a mixed message this sends out. In a military context, poppies convey gratitude and heroism. But when it comes

to the drug problem, the same flower represents ruin and degradation. It must be unusual to find the same thing representing totally opposite qualities! The only other example I can think of is of the way a bald shaven head has sinister, even criminal, overtones in the West, but signifies a monk in the East, and therefore quite

the opposite.

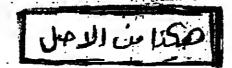
Professor Gather-Hunterer writes: Yes, an interesting observation. I'd never thought

Hold on - this question and answer column strikes me as a total con! All the mformation is coming from the readers! The old Professor is not contributing anything! He seems happy just to nod automatically when anyone says anything! Is he drunk? Is he on drugs? Is this what they call a Post-Modernist advice column, or

Professor Hunter-Gatherer writes: You may be nearer the much than you think.

Professor Hunter-Gatherer will be back soon with more enlightenment on the way we live nov. Keep those questions rolling!





# Message for our leaders: ignore Clinton's America

ony Blair is our Bill Clin-ton. He is young, telegenic and very bright, and takes no prisoners. He is a brilliant politician of the centre-left who has come to a happy accommodation with much of the mainstream con-servative agenda. He is, like Clinton, a child of the Sixties, who prefers jeans, wears his hair slightly long, listens to rock music. But, like Clinton, he has turned his back on some of that decade's legacy; he is pro-family, pious, stern on law and order, he makes austere noises about welfare reform.

John Major, by contrast, is our ... Bill Clinton. He is the incumbent leader, repeatedly written off by wiseacre journalists. His administration has tacked, and has suffered from what we here call "sleaze" and the Americans, in a different context, call "the character question". But like Clinton. Major is a superb campaigner and comeback merchant who knows that it is always, at root, the economy. Like Clintun, he has been delivering economic

recovery.
So which is it? Will the real British Bill please stand up? Let's admit that these Atlanucabolishing parallels are a game: the United States is a very different country, whose politicians play by other rules. The politics of Washington move in an asymmetric rhythm from that of the politics of London. But there is enough common daylight in British and American politics for

the Clinton question to be an illuminating one. And the answer, of course, is that Blair seems more like Clinton than the Prime Minister does; for to be "like" Clinton in 1996 is to be, above all, someone with the gloss and confidence of a winner. Had John Major been confronting a Labour Bob Dole - an unpop-ular, older politician - then perhaps he would seem Clintonesque. But he isn't, and doesn't.

Yet the Clinton comparison is one which Blair, if he is wise, will flinch from, and not only because it implies a weakness for trouserdropping. Consider: when Clinton is so regularly, almost universally, described as a hrilliant politician, what does this mean? Does it mean that he has changed American society? Not a whit. He has presided, literally, over a nation driven by globalised corporations, by the harons of the new technologies and by swift, sometimes fracturing social change, but little touched by the doings of the White House.

This recovery is not "his", in the sense that America's recovery from the Depression was built and directed by the Roosevelt administrations. The country has entered these milder waters during Clinton's genial, loose-tillered vatch, and this has h ely helped him, keep ing the electorate in relatively forgiving mood: but the growth, employment and inflation record has essentially been accomplished by

American business and by the Fed. Where, then, is his brilliance? It exists; but it is a technical thing. Peuple talk of the Pres-



Andrew Marr

Major and Blair have similarities with Bill Clinton. But they should learn no lessons from

a mere

machine

So, as the political class gazes dmiringly at the latest glittering example of a great campaigner or a great party-manager at work, the rest of the world turns quietly away. Look at the pathetic voter turn-out campaigning in America; or the worryingly low rates of registration and intention to vote among younger adults here. A decade or so more of this and the

ident's phenomenal memory for names and his charismatic

flesh-pressing his instinct for

dominating a room, for doing

a deal, for scenting trouble.

Hardened journalists are awe-

struck by his energy and

resilience, by the enthusiasm for campaigning. People talk of the "political animal". That's

Clinton - instinctive, with spe-cial eyes, hands, nostrils and

teeth - built for winning votes, as Tyson is huilt for hitting

As ideology and savage polit-ical argument have gone out of fashion, then this animal skill

has come to be rated ever

higher. But for any politician who aspires to be radical or

progressive, there is a trap here; a political-animal-trap. It works because the second-order, technical expertise so

admired in modern politics,

and so exemplified by Clinton,

does not move great masses of voters. They know that hig

reforms come from argument-ative and brave leaders, and

cause pain, and make enemies.

essential base of centre-leftish voting - the very mechanism on which Clinton and Blair depend will have been eaten away. In the end, if progressive politicians don't progress, preferring instead to follow the

dominant conservative ideology of the day, then conservatives can only win. It may be infuriating for Republican or Tury activists to see cherished ideas being implemented by their political enemies; but why should conservative voters worry? It is not, it seems, too late for Clinton. With

the freedom of a second term, he could deliver at least some of the promises of his earliest national campaigning.

And, obviously, it is not too late for Tony Blair. If he wins in May, his real career in politics lies mainly ahead of him: all his essential choices on welfare, tax, political reform, Europe, the environment are as yet unmade and can be taken, if he chooses, in a progressive, self-certain spiril - there will be no Republican Congress to fret about.

tt isn't surprising that Blair is relaxed this morning about the Clinton parallel - who wouldn't want to he tainted by awesome electoral success? Yet the idea that he should, in power, take lessons from the first Clinton administration is a dire one. In office, Clintonism suggests not the brilliance of the campaign trail, but an ungainly political dance to somebody else's tune. So: Tony Blair - Britain's Bill Clinton? No thanks.

# The cost of being Europe's squaddies

by Polly Toynbee

we are? We on the world stage, puffed up with imperial dreams way beyond our means - all fur coat and no knickers. We are buying more Eurofighters than anyone else so we can flash around the skies like some pimp cruising through a bombed-out neigh-bourhood in a white Jag. We have ordered 386 new Challenger tanks and 64 EH101 battle helicopters. We are hardware addicts on a wild spending spree.

The public spending round is upon us. The little performance with the Health Secretary, Stephen Dorrell, and his (too few) extra millions for the NHS is a phoney show designed to reassure us that money will go where it is needed. But what about the billions spent where it is no longer needed?

Britain together with France spends far more than the rest of Europe on defence - 3.1 per cent of our GNP. (We spend the same as France because we are locked into an absurd arms race with them.) Germany and Belgium spend only 1.7 per cent; Spain spends 1.5 per cent. We have no treaty obligations to make us contribute more to Nato or European defence than Germany, so we could halve our spending if we chose. We cur-rently spend £22bn. Think how much we could put right with another £11bn a year to spend on education and social projects.

We are not a rich country. We rank only 20th in the world, with most of Europe ahead of us in the league tables of per capita GDP. Why do we spend so much on defence, what do we get for it, and who is the enemy, anyway? The Eurofighter is a beauti-

ful thing. This we know because of the purple prose that drips from the boys' pens. One elo-quent profile of the plane reads; The pilot with helmet-mounted sights and voice-operated wea-pons selection will be able to shoot down enemy aircraft by doing little more than looking at them and wishing his missiles happy hunting. The computer has a woman's soft voice which keeps the pilot informed about the condition of the aircraft (remaining fuel, etc) and rises to an urgent timbre when the hlip of an enemy appears on her radar ... Four computers hold it y and interpret the phot's tiny finger movements on the joystick." This is the ultimate iggles dream machine, fuelled by national testosterone. We - you and I - are buying



This is the ultimate Biggles dream machine, fuelled by national testosterone. We - you and I - are buying 232 for £16bn

that they will cost some £16bn, but the cost is notional. It will multiply again and again, as defence contracts do. At the present attrition rate, some eight of them will crash a year in train-

ing. But it will enable Britain to mount a full-scale war. Hurrah! The plane was first thought of in 1979 at the height of the Cold War to engage with Rusian Mics over Europe. It w designed for dog-fights and assaults on attacking bombers. No one expects bombers over Britain now. Any attack would

be with missiles. For what war will these little

beauties be needed? Wars now are expected to be of the Bosnian or Rwandan variety. Our strategy is about peacekeeping around the world. The monstrous grear Challenger 2 tanks we have ordered, at a (purely notional) £1.1bn, will be no use for that kind of war - too wide, slow and heavy for narrow streets or long distances. Then there is the £1 sum you like) for the EH101

dent nuclear submarines, still costing us some £1bn a year. Why do we need all this? One of the worst reasons is

helicopters. Ah, yes, and the Tri-

jobs. Michael Portillo says that the Eurofighter will bring 14,000 jobs. At a very conservative estimate, that is £1m per job. £1m! Think of the jobs you could create with government money in health, education, g, welfare and social services. This is a joh creation of

There is the high-tech arguelectronics steaks from the civilian world. They spin-in the technology of others. The spinoff is minimal.

Why do we really need all

of world-class warriors. Our nuclear arms and strike forces ensure our UN security council seat. Here, the argument becomes circular. Why do we want to sit on the security council, anyway? Why do we want to punch so much more than our weight in the world? Why can't we be satisfied with the firepower of Belgium? Here the experts shrug, becaused by the question. National grandeur, said one. Our own self-image and pride, said another.

We do have moral obligations. We have a duty to contribute fairly, according to our means, to international peacekeeping. Are we loved and admired around the world hecause of our extra firepower? No, we are not loved at all; least of all in the EU, where we contribute so much more than the rest. We are the squad-dies of Europe. Our preten-tions are snickered at by other nations who see through our gilded armour-plating to the chaotic state of much of society behind the front line.

Who are our real enemies? They are all within. We may be armed to the teeth, but not against the enemies people most fear. Crime has come to symbolise a sickness eating away at the social core. The enemy is not some Red Baron in the skies, but small boys from catastrophic, poor families, out of control, on drugs, growing up without help, for lack of investment in social programmes. They wreak havoc in schools and fetch up in prison while their teenage sisters give hirth to more like them. These are the fruits of a neglected underclass. Much can be done about it with money wisely spent. Ignorance, poverty and crime

So what would Labour do in power? They will hold a defence review that will try to make sense of our muddled military objectives. Maybe they will have the guts to make swingeing cuts, but if so, we are not likely to hear about it until after the election.

If generals are always fighting the last war, then politicians are always fighting the last elec-tion. Scorched into Labour memory is the damage that unilateral disarmament did tar-ring them as fellow travellers in the Cold War. But those days have gone. Declaring the peace best social aspirations suddenly look creative and credible. If read-my-lips-no-new-taxes is to remain the rule, then a promise to release money from the mad this? It keeps us at the top table defence budget would win votes.

# White mischief

Fatherhood meets the mother of all fantasists. By John Lyttle

ichael Jackson Tu Have Child. So what else is new? the cynical will doubtless say - and let us be frank, where Michael Jackson is concerned, we may all have become cynics, stunned observers at a sick media circus that never ends, such is the ringmaster's talent for constant re-invention.

We are, after all. talking about a poor black boy who "grew up" to become a rich white woman, the victim of a strange skin condition that has not only rendered him pale and uninteresting but caused his nose to narrow, chin to dimple and cheekbones to sharpen, the Jehovah's Witness in love with the supernatural who swiftly, and secretly, wed a Scientologist (Lisa Marie Presley – that was the name of his latest flame) at the very moment accusations of child sex almse hit. And who just as quickly divorced when a multi-million-dollar settlement bought off further legal action from Jordy Chandler and other pre-pubescent accusers who threatened the increasingly purple reign of the self-proclaimed

King of Pop. Jackson
was able to moonwalk away from the mess, career intact - the last three singles have sold in the millions - and now one has to ask if his defiance of the law, manipulation of public opinion and apparent ignorance of any moral considerations have carried him beyond such dull categories as damage limitation to a gaudy place where the everyday frames of refer-

no longer matters exactly what Michael Jackson does, or who he does it do, just as long as he does it. and the public has its popcorn and a clear view.

So why not pay for the artificial insemination of a nurse (her



story) have sex with a nurse for love (HIStory) and break the news in time for the release of the latest song? Here's the plug: it's called Stranger in Moscow. Why not play up the "fact" - note: at this stage of the game there are no facts, merely multiple-choice rumours and grist to the mill - that Jackson is supposed to have known sticking ke the lady concerned, Debbie Rowe, for false idol.

ence regarding celebrity and behaviour are simply suspended; perhaps stepping in to call the expectant stepping in to call the expectant mother "a liar", and her claims, "complete nonsense")? Why not hreeze past the news that the child is to be placed in the gloved hands of a masked man happy to adopt Christlike poses at award ceremonies (and

whose latest celluloid project is the constrained barely metaphor of Ghosts, a 35-minute horror fdm about a shape-shifting spook reviled by adults but loved by the adoring tots who know "He did-n't do anything wrong. He's not a monster.")?

Fantasy and fatherhood. One suspects that Michaet Jackson either sees them as a PR pincer movement or worse, simply cannot distinguish between the two and furthermore, hopes that we can't either. Or can, and no longer care. He may be right. Cynicism is its own trap. We are encouraged to become connoisseurs. We begin to sayour our sochistication and reflex ability to make light of the dark: hey, Michael Jackson's not got a friend so he's decided to grow his own! In doing so, of course, the process obliterates the deed and gives permission to carry on regardless. Having

lost our own innocence we no longer seem perturbed by the loss of it in others or troubled by the spectacle of it perhaps being feigned by expert

Or maybe we just wearily realise that after so many scalpels and blades, there isn't much point in sticking knives into even the most

# Reasons to go off your trolley

t is National Consumer Week, found that two-thirds of us continue prohably off your trolley. The good news is that according to the latest survey of shopping habits, just about everyone else is as well.

"We're required to process thousands of hits of information the moment we enter a supermarket," says the consumer psychologist Sue Keane.

"Our goal is simply to survive."

She paints a rather touching picture of a nation in which almost all of us (90 per cent) take the trouble to prepare for the weekly shop by making a list or checking the cupboards. And then, every week, we glide through thuse automatic doors and promptly

lose our minds. Suddenly, almost everyone - from Half of us have become angry in accountants to hrain supermarkets surgeons to pensioners - becomes incaover the past six pable of figuring out what a kilo of tomamonths. The other toes looks like. We half are lying toiter in front of "dull" products - this is what the experts

centrated". In condiments, we are transfixed by the conundrum of whether the two-for-three offer on jumbo tomato sauce is really for us. Then, having obsessed about saving pennies on cat food and yoghurt, we go on an impulse buying spree in chilled meals. All of this means we get our (frozen) just descris when we get

"You can see people looking at their till receipt as they come out as if they do not know what they have bought. Our ability to work out value for money has actually diminished over the years," says Sue Keane. "It should be that the more information you've got, the better shopper you are; but it just doesn't work that way." The Procter & Gamble survey

and the had news is that you are to rely on imperial measurements, even though the world has gone metric, and that we want manufacturers to provide simple and clear information on packaging. It also found that 77 per cent of men find it difficult to choose household products (no surprises there) and resolve their confusion by reaching for something large with a recognisable hrand.

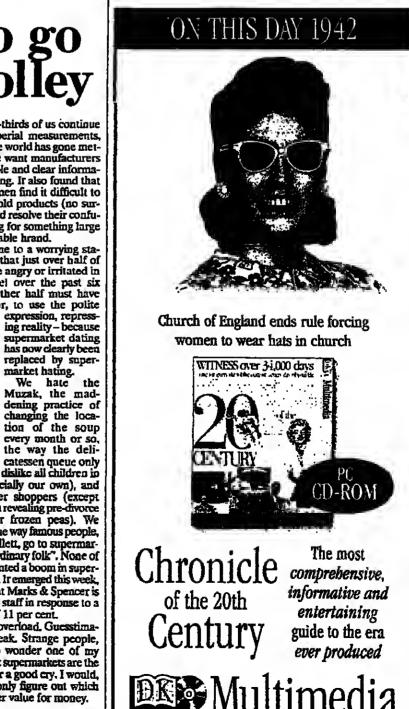
Then we come to a worrying statistic. It seems that just over half of us have become angry or irritated in the supermarkel over the past six months. The other half must have been lying - or, to use the polite

ing reality - because supermarket dating has now clearly been replaced by supermarket hating. We hate the Muzak, the mad-

every month or so. the way the delicatessen queue only call household cleaning stuff - trying gets longer. We dislike all children in to divine the true meaning of "conthe store (especially our own), and aimost all other shoppers (except those engaged in revealing pre-divorce arguments over frozen peas). We especially hate the way famous people, à la Barbara Follett, go to supermarkets to meet "ordinary folk". None of which has prevented a boom in supermarket business. It emerged this week, for example, that Marks & Spencer is to take on 2,000 staff in response to a

rise in profits of 11 per cent. Information overload, Guesstimation, Doublespeak, Strange people, Bad music. No wonder one of my friends finds that supermarkets are the perfect place for a good cry. I would, too, if I could only figure out which tissues are better value for money.

Ann Treneman



· 1000

# Sir Eric Drake

chief executive of the British Pe-sharing out reduced oil supplies troleum Company, was in many ways the archetypal oil mogul of his generation. If he had selfdoubts, he did not show them. of the hierarchy, hecoming a Assertive, at times domineering, he preferred action to debate and was unafraid of confrontation. In his pomp, he ranked with ministers of state, and he would not play second fiddic even in the highest company.

Forty years in a single cor-porate hierarchy did not make him a dull company man. It was too interesting a time for that, as the Second World War left Britain impoverished, the tide of nationalism swept across Asia and Africa, and Britain gave up her empire, relinquished overseas possessions and accepted a reduced world rate.

These developments posed enormous challenges for BP. Unmistakahly British, majorityowned by the British government, and owning huge investments of great strategic and economic importance in Middle East oil. BP was directly in the firing tine of nationalists. who were determined to wrest control of oil from foreign oil companies. That was the central drama of Drake's time.

The soo of a country doctor. Eric Drake was born in Rochester in 1910. He graduated from Pembroke College, Cambridge, with a degree in Law, hut a greater fondness for rowing. After qualifying as an accountant, he joined the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company in 1935, and was posted to work in accounts at the Abudan refinery in Iran. This was not to Drake's liking, he was impatient for promotion - denied him despite his forceful (perhaps too

forceful) representations. Eventually, wartime demands for the expansion of the refinery created an opportunity for Drake to progress into general management. He made a success of it, was promoted, and in 1950 became Anglo-Iranian's general manager in Iran. This was a hig joh, which put Drake in charge of the giant Iranian oilfields and the huge Abadan refinery, by then the largest re-finery in the world and Britain's higgest single overseas asset.

Drake was soon in a very hot spot. In 1951 the Iranian prime minister, Muhammad Musaddig, riding a wave of na- the British Chamber of Shiptionalist anti-British feeling. nationalised Anglo-Iranian's operations in Iran. This precipitated an international crisis, in which the British and American governments became and an Elder Brother of Trinideeply involved, vainly seeking a solution until, in 1953, they resorted to covert support for a coup to depose Musaddiq. In on numerous committees, govthe meantime. Drake had to deal with the tense situation in Ahadan. He refused to acknowledge that oil produced by Anglo-Iranian was the property of Iran rather than Anglotranian, was accused of sabotage for which the penalty might have been death and, on everything he did was a great the advice of the British Consul. escaped to London via Iraq.

Drake recovered from his ordeal in Iran. After a spell in Australia, and a happy period as Anglo-Iranian's representative in North America, he came home in 1954, the year that Anglo-Iranian was renamed British Petroleum. Put in charge of BP's supply system, he played u prominent part in the Organisation for European Eco-nomic Co-operation (OEEC)'s Hampshire 31 October 1996.

Births.

Marriages

& Deaths

LLOVID: On Sunday 27 October, at Trianty Hospice, London SW4, peacefully, after a long illness bravely fought. Dawn Elizabeth Margaret tree Stilgoel, wile of the late Trevor Lloyd, stepmother of Rachel and Simon and sister of Robin, Richard and George. No flowers, please, but domitions if desired to Cancer Relief Mazzullan Fund, 15:19 Britten Street, London SW3.3TZ, Servac of Thanksewing at 12 noon on 25 November at S1 Stephen's, Gloucester Road, London SW7.

RAPOPORT: Robert Norman Rapo-

port, social anthropologist, aged 72, died J November in Hampstead, af-ter in accidental tall. His loss is dev-astoning for his wife Rhona, daughter Lorsa, son Al and two grandchildren

Erro and lots, Friends and family will eather in celebration of his talents, his tone and his life on Thursday 7 No-tember, Jpm. Golders Green Cre-

Announcements for Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memo-rial services, Wedding anniversaries, In

Memoriam) should be sent in writing to the Gazette Editor, The Independent, I Cazeta Square, Canary Wharf, Lon-don E14 5DL, telephoned to 0171-293

2011 (24-hour answering machine 0171-293 2012) or faxed to 0171-293

2010, and are charged at £6.50 a line (VAT extra). OTHER Gazette an-

coming marriages, Marriages) must be submitted in writing (or faxed) and are charged at £10 a line. VAT extra. They should be accompanied by a daytime telephone mumber.

ements (notices, functions, Forth-

DEATHS

Eric Drake, as chairman and emergency system for fairly in Western Europe during the

Suez Canal crisis of 1956-57. Drake cootinued his ascent managing director of BP in 1958, deputy chairman in 1962, and chairman in 1969; a knighthood followed in 1970. He was then caught up again in a ma-jor international upheaval. This, time it was not just Iran, but all the main oil-exporting countries, organised in Opec. who sought in take control of their oil resources from the large companics like BP. The height of the crisis came in 1973 when the Arab-Israell war broke out, the Opec countries dramatically raised the price of oil, and the Arab exporters cut oil supplies io states friendly to their archenemy Israel. Amidst fears of an oil shortage the oil companies tried to "equalise the misery" by spreading the cuts across the consuming nations. Drake characteristically resisted political pressures and opposed requests from Edward Heath, the Prime Minister, for BP to supply Britain with oil which was programmed for other countries.

While BP retreated before Opec, Drake's chairmanship was marked by happier developments elsewhere, most no-tably BP's large-scale entry into the North American oil industry after discovering a giant oilfield in Alaska, and the excitement of new discoveries in the North Sea, from which oil



Drake: no second fiddle

began to flow in 1975, the year of Drake's retirement.

In his eventful working life, Drake was always interested in ships, from oil tankers to dhows and was for a time President of ping. His favourite recreation was sailing and he was a memher of the Royal Yacht Squadron and the Honourable Company of Master Mariners including that of P&O, and sat erning bodies and the like None of these, though, could compare in excitement with his time at the helm of BP.

He had a very happy family with his second wife Margaret and their two sons. Her support and interest in people and source of strength to him.

James Bamberg

Arthur Eric Courtney Drake, oil company executive: born Rochester 29 November 1910; CBE 1952, deputy chairman, British Petroleum Co 1963-69, chairman 1969-75; Kt 1970; deputy chairman, P&O 1976-81; married 1935 Rosemary Moore (two daughters), 1950 Margaret Wil-

Dr James Barber, Masier, Hatfield

College, Durham, 65; Professor Lord Bauer, economist, SI; Mr James

Bowman, operatic counter-tenor.

55; Mr Frank Carson, comedian, 70:

M Jacques Charrier, actor, 60; Mr Rny Condf, song-writer and arranger, 80; Mr David Exham, Headmaster, Bloxham School, 52; Miss Sally Field,

actress, 50; Dr Keith Griffin, economist, 53; Mr Nigel Havers, actor, 47: Mr Bernat Klein, designer, 74; Mr Leonard Miall, historian, 82; Mr

David Montgomery, chief execu-tive, Mirror Group Newspapers, 48. Admiral Sir Anthony Morton, King of Arms, Order of the British Em-

pire, 73; Mr Mike Nichols, film and theatre director, 65; Lord Nimmo

Smith, a Senator of the College of Justice in Scotland, 54; Mr PJ, Pro-

by, rock singer, 58; General Sir David Ramsbotham former Adjurant General, 62: Professor Sir Martin

General, 62. Processor 5th Francisco. Roth, psychiatrist, 79; Mr Ron Saunders, football manager, 64; Sir Oliver Scott Bt, radiobiologist, 74; Sir

George Sinclair, former colonial administrator, 84; Mr Malcolm Thone,

phone, 1814. Deaths: John Murray

(McMarray), publisher, 1793; Peter Hyich Tchaikovsky, composer, 1893;

Gene Eliza Tierney, actress, 1991. On this day: Abraham Lincoln was elect-

ed as 16th US president, 1860; the

United States exploded the first hy-drogen bomb at Eniwelok Atoll, in

the Pacific, 1952. Today is the Feast

Day of St Bariaam of Khutya, St Demetrian of Khytri, St Illtud, St

Birthdays

Leonard of Noblac, SI Melaine and

Lectures

National Gallery: List Tickner, "Walter Sickert, The Canden Town Mur-der and tabloid crime", 6.30pm (Paul Mellon Lecture). Tate Gallery: Jeremy Black, "Re-sponses to Italy and France", 1pm; David Sylvester, "Francis Bacon 1921-577 6-20-m

National Portrait Gallery: Alan Fern, "Best Faces Forward: the history and collections of the National Portrait Gallery, Washington

British Archaeological Association (held at Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House, London WI): Ole Schiorring, Twenty-five years of Urban Archaeology in Denmark",

Gresham College, Barnard's Inn Hall, London ECI: Professor Tom Cannon, "Yesterday's Education for Tomorrow's Business", tpm.

Receptions Headmaster, Fettes College, 54; Mr

Ministry of Defence Gracme Wood, cricketer, 40. Mr Michael Portillo MP hosted a re-ception held yesterday evening at Lancaster House, St James's, Lon-Anniversaries don SWI, to meet the Common-wealth Defence and Service Advisers Births: Colley Cibber, actor and playwright, 1671; Adolphe (Antoine-Joseph) Sax, inventor of the saxoand Attaches in the United Kingdom.

Luncheons

Forcien and Commonwealth Office Mr Jeremy Hanley MP, Minister of State for Foreign and Common-wealth Affairs, hosted a lunch held yesterday at the Foreign and Com-monwealth Office, London SWI, for Mr Li Langing, Vice-Premier of

Dinners

**English-Speaking Union** Professor Alan Watson, Deputy Chairman, English-Speaking Union, and Mrs Valeric Mitchell, Director-General, received the guests at a re-ception and dinner held yesterday evening at Dartmouth House, Lon-don W1, to celebrate the American Presidential Election. Mr William J. Crowe Jur. Ambassador, was among

Foundation for Science and Technology

Lord Butterworth was in the chair at a fecture and dinner discussion beld yesterday evening at the Reyal So-ciety of Edinburgh. Mr Gerald R. Wilson, Professor Sir Graeme Davies and Mr Charles Skene were the speakers. Their subject was "Business and Universities Growing Together.

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS
The Princess Royal, President of the Parton,
Orms Concern, chairs the Regional Launch of
ReadRounces at the Hearthands High School,
Brosimplement is President, Robusy for the Dusbied
Association, attends the Pottonal Conference (Richard Princes) Demonstrational at Uniformed Regional Princess Demonstrational Agricultural Centre,
Ecribvurth Wurwigishiru, and menet the National
Economica Wurwigishiru, and menet the National
Conformace Recoption and Dimer. Patacess
Margaret, President, National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, encounts the series
only a national Plean Game? and Dimere as Infedire
Frenche, Lendon Ecc. The Duke of Rase, President,
Australia and Ammenialite Americanic Conmittee Meeting, at Northilt House, Basingstollo, Fengle, London ECA. The Online of Kont, President, attends an Antonomisis Annocation Committee Meeting, at Northilk House, Basingstoke, Hampshim, Princeps Alexandra valve Illord Limitod, Mohlesky, Cheshire, as President, whist the lamperal Cancer Research Hand Sharo, Adderlev Edge, Cheshire, and as Vices President, Brainin Red Crow Society, opens Menandal House, the new Commy Headquarters. In Runsberd, Cheshire Prince Midshed of Kant attends the New Nortes Foundation Revista at Asprey's, London W.

Changing of the Guard
The Household Cavalty Mounted Regis
meants the Queen's Life Guard at Borne One
Hant, F Changany Scote Guards mounts
Gueen's Guard, at Buchbughaus Pelanes, IL3

We knew at the instant of seeing it that it was to become our home': Tangye this year at Dormhack, the **Derek Tangye** 

In the early 1950s Derek Tangye and his wife Jeannie were walking along the cliffs near Lamorna, above Mount's Bay in Comwall, when they saw a buzzard drifting overhead.

Suddenly we saw below it in the distance a small grey cottage on the edge of a wood. It was as grey as the boulders beaped haphazardly around it, as grey as the ancient stone hedges which guarded long forgotten meadows. This was Minack. We knew at the instance of several than the second of the s he instant of seeing it that it was to ecome our home.

The quotation is from A Cornish Summer (1970), the seventh in a series of autobiographical books, all hestsellers and describing their life in that cottage, their early struggles on a flower farm, and their love for the wild landscape and their various animals, that has become known as the "Minack Chronicles". The 19th, The Confusion Room. was published this year.

Friends in London had been amazed that this good-looking and sophisticated couple should take such a plunge. Derek had worked in Fleet Street as a gossip columnist on the Express and elsewhere. Jeannie had been an agony aunt on the Mirror and had been press officer for the Savoy Hotel Group, which in-

Elisabeth Abercrombie had a

short but rewarding career as an

operatic soprano, appearing at

Glyndebourne before the Sec-

Wells Opera during, and at

Coveot Gardeo after, the war.

Born Dorothy Maud Brown-

ees, she did not like her given

names and adopted the name

Elisabeth. From the age of 17

she studied at the Royal College

of Music, taking the organ as

her principal subject and singing

as a second study. After ohtain-

ing her degree, she took a joh

as organist and choir-mistress at

In 1931 she married Nigel

Abcreromhie, then a young

don at Magdalen College; a

distinguished academic, civil

servant and writer, he was

General Secretary of the Arts

Council from 1963 to 1968.

a girls' school near Oxford.

ond World War, with Sadler's

spired her book Meet Me at the Savov, published under her maiden name Jean Nicol, and also a bestseller. Their friends included Danny Kaye, David Milford Haven, the photographer Baron, Beverley Nichols, A.P. Herbert, Noël Coward and Tyrone Power, also, surprising-ly perhaps, George Brown, the future Foreign Secretary. It is said that when Jeannie came down the stairs at the Savoy the orchestra would strike up with the tune "Jeannie with the

Light Brown Hair. Derek Tangye had Cornish ancestry and had spent happy childhood holidays at his family home at Glendorgal, near Newquay. He had always admired a house called Boskenna at Lamorna, but when he took Jeannie to see it they decided that a simple cottage was really their ideal. Minack, or Dorminack, was certainly simple when they moved in, with an earth floor, no water and electricity, a mile down a humpy muddy track. However they still returned once or twice a year to London, where they took a luxurious suite first at the

Savoy, then at Claridges, In 1961 Tangye published A readers and in each book would

solos with the Oxford Bach

Choir and in 1934 made her op-

eratic debut as Phoebe in Ram-

eau's Castor and Pollux with the

Oxford University Opera Club.

den chorus; but after a meeting

between her husband and John

Christie, an audition for the

chorus at Glyndebourne was

arranged, and she accepted that

offer instead, beginning in the

1935 season. She took lessons

with Jani Strasser, on the music

staff at Glyndebourne from its

opening, and continued to work

with him throughout her career.

Though she only sang one role at Glyndebourne, the Gen-

tlewoman attending on Lady Macbeth in Verdi's Macbeth in

1938, she covered several of the

Elisabeth Abercrombie

Sir Thomas Beecham heard her tained their guests.

In 1937, calting herself a contract for the Covent Gar
"Maria Etrik" on Strasser's ad-

Girl on the Roof, which was a great success. He and Jeannie story of how Jeannie came to Dorminack, and then go on to the previous years' adventures had been adopted by a succession of cats - notably Monty and Lama - which became the heroes (or heroines) of subsequent books. A Drake at the Door (1963) was so named because of a pet Muscovy duck named Boris (after Pasternak), and A Donkey in the Meadow (1965) was in honour of Fred, a donkey rescued from the knacker's yard.

The books were illustrated by Jeannie, and nearly all were serialised in popular illustrated magazines. The fan mail grew. The Tangyes' romantic story struck a chord with many who felt that they longed to escape from the stresses of modern life. There were also pilgrimages of admirers, mostly unsolicited. In spite of all this Derek Tangye constantly needed reassurance, as I discovered when I was his publisher. He was touchy about the promotion of other bestselling writers on country matters - Gavin Maxwell, for example, or James Herriot (tricky for us, at Michael Joseph, as Herriot was also

one of our authors). He was

Elisabeth Abertrombie sang leading soprano roles. She also country and playing in London

sang in many of the private con-

certs and recitals given in the

Organ Room or the theatre, with which John Christie and his

wife Audrey Mildmay enter-

vice, she sang Purcell's Dido, and Venus in John Blow's Venus

and Adonis (which was televised)

for Oxford University Opera

Club. In 1939 she took part in

a Cambridge University pro-

duction of Mozart's Idomeneo.

Abercrombie toured with the

Glyndebourne Singers, giving

concerts mostly of Mozart's

music all over Britain. In 1942.

she joined Sadler's Wells Opera,

which was virtually homeless

during the war, touring the

Jarrett v Barclays Bank pic and

(Lord Justice Morritt, Lord

related appeals; Court of Appeal

country where the property

The Court of Appeal al-

lowed an appeal by Trevor and Elizabeth Jarrett against the

dismissal by Judge Brandt, sit-ting at Ipswich County Court

on 19 April 1995, of their claim

against Barclays Bank pic and

the Royal Bank of Scotland.

The court also allowed an ap-

peal by Peter and Denise Jones

against the dismissal by Judge Hamilton, at Liverpool Coun-

ty Court on 30 August 1995, of

their claim against First Na-

was situated.

During the early war years,

singing the role of Electra.

which could be a shipwreck, swallows nesting for the first time under the eaves, or a gala at Lamoroa village. After I had left Michael

Joseph, I used to be invited to a special post-Christmas lunch at Dorminack. The hig fire blazed and the cottage would be strong with hundreds of cards from all over the world, champagne flowed and we ate in a nature conservatory watched donkeys from the hedge above, maybe also with a gull on the roof. Jeannie was a very good cook and baked her own bread. She died suddenly in 1986, and Derek tried for two years afterwards to keep up the tradition of these lonches. It became too much for him, and he could not be persuaded to resume them at our bouse, at the other end of Cornwall. Indeed, after Jeannie's death he scarce-

at the New Theatre (now the

Abercromhie's beautiful

voice was at its best at this time.

and her roles included Violet-

ta in La Traviata (her favourite),

Mimi in La Bohème and Fior-

diligi in Cost fan tutti. In all these

operas she was partnered by Pe-

ter Pears, a fellow chorus singer

After the war, Abercrombie

appeared for several seasons

(1947-51) with the newly

formed Covent Garden Opera

Company. She sang the Marschallin in Der Rosenkava-

lier, the Countess in The Mar-

riage of Figuro and Ellen Orford in Peter Grimes. In 1951 she sang

in the premiere of Vaughan

Williams's The Pilgrim's Progress as one of the two Heavenly Be-

ings who revive Pilgrim in the

at pre-war Glyndebourne.

Albery) or the Princess.

Derek also spoke of her on the television programme Songs of Praise in 1992, and many of as were moved to tears when Barou's photograph of her beautiful face appeared as if from the clouds. Derek's book about her, Jeannie (1986), also part of the "Minack Chroni-cles", I consider to be his hest Some time before they had bought several acres of meadow sloping down to the sea, looking out to St Michael's Mount, and when she was dying they decided to form it into a trust, the Minack Chronicles

preserving natural life. The possibility of a television series based on the books kept Derek Tangye huoyed up in his last years, when he became increasingly crippled by arthritis and gout. This and the extraordinary flow of admirers who continued to make the pilgrimage and wade through the stream known as Monty's Leap.

Trust, as a place for solitude and

Claridges in the old tradition; while and journalist born Lon-Jeannie's funeral was made don 29 February 1912; married, especially memorable by an 1943 Jeannie Nicol (died 1986); address by John Le Carré. died 26 October 1996 Raleigh Trevelyan



Valley of Humiliation. After retiring she became a very successful private singing teacher. Elizabeth Forbes

Dorothy Maud Brownlees (Elisabeth Abercrombie), singer: born Plymouth 29 August 1906; married 1931 Nigel Abercrombie (died 1986; two daughters); died

## Eleanor **Dulles**

Eleanor Lansing Dulles was the granddaughter, the niece and the sister of US Secretaries of State. She was also a talcoted woman of strong character

in her own right. Her career moved with distinction from the study of economics into diplomacy. She served as the head of the State Department's Berlin desk during the days of the Borlin Airlift and the Cold War, and in later life wrote more than a dozen books, among them a memoir of her brother, John Foster Dulles, and an autobiography. Chances of a Lifetime (1980).

Her grandfather, John Watson Foster, was a Civil War general turned international lawyer who served as Secretary of State in the Administration of President Benjamin Harrison. Her mother married Allen Macy Dulles, pastor of the First Presbyterian church in Waterlown, in western New York

Eleanor, like her two hrothers, the future Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, and Allen, who became Director of Central Intelligence after a legendary carer as America's most successful spy and spymaster, was "borrowed" for two months a year by her grandfather, one of the richest and most successful lawyers in Washington.

She went to Bryn Mawr, a small, highly academic women's college to the suburbs of Philndelphia, and by 1918 had wangled her way to France, where she worked in a civilian relief agency. On Armistice Day she annoyed her hrother Allen, a delegate to the Peace Conference, by turning up unannounced to take a hot bath in his suite at the Hotel Crilion.

By this stage her uncle. Robert W. Lansing, a Democrat, had become President Woodrow Wilson's Secretary of State. Eleanor qualified as an economist, and worked on international banking and finance; her first published book was a study of the Bank for International Settlements in Basle.

At the end of the Second World War she went to Austria as economic adviser to the Allied military government there, and then moved into the State Department. Her most important job was as head of the Berlin desk in the 1950s. She was extremely annoyed when the Russian and East German intelligence authorities discovered a tunnel dug by the CIA to tap into Communist: communications cabling. "It's all Allen's fault," she said in her frustration at having to sweep up the diplomatic consequences of her brother's coup.

She and Allen had irritated each other since childhood. and were never close. In the 1950s, however, she built a hungalow for herself near McLean, Virginia, just down the road from the site where her hrother would build the CIA's permanent home at Langley. Occasionally middle-ranking diplomats invited to lunch would be startled to find the Secretary of State and the Director of Central Intelligence, in haggy shorts and Hawaiian shirts, sipping drinks by the pool. These high-level contacts would of course be faithfully reported to their respective

Godfrey Hodgson Eleanor Lansing Dulles, diplomat and writer, born Watertown, New York 1 June 1895; married 1932

# one son, one daughter); died Washington DC 30 October 1996. Bank can be sued in UK over timeshare deal

LAW REPORT

Justice Ward, Lord Justice tional Bank plc, and dismissed Potter) 31 October 1996 an appeal by that bank against A couple induced to buy a a decision of Judge Jack, at timeshare property in a foreign Bristol County Court on 1 February 1996, allowing a claim brought against it by Judith and Christopher Peacock to go country on the basis of misrepresentations by the seller

could bring proceedings in the UK under the Consumer Credit Act 1974 against the bank In each case the plaintiffs had entered into agreements to huy annual timesbare properwhich financed the deal. While the agreement concerned might be a "tenancy" under En-ropean law, the "object" of the ties abroad, using finance provided by the banks. They claims was not the tenancy itclaimed they had been induced self but the finance agreement, into signing the agreements by misrepresentations by the sell-ers, and that under sections 56 and 75 of the 1974 Act the so the buyers were not required by article 16 of the Brussels Convention on Civil Jurisdiction and Judgments to bring their claim in the

banks were liable.

By section 56 "antecedent negotiations" with the debtor in relation to a transaction financed by a "debtor-creditorsupplier agreement" were deemed to be conducted by the supplier on behalf of the creditor as well as himself. By section 75(1):

If the debtor under a debtor-has, in relation to a transaction u-nanced by the agreement, any claim against the supplier in respect of a misrepresentation or breach of con-tract, he shall have a like claim against the creditor, who, with the supplier, shall accordingly be

6 November 1996

jointly and severally liable to the The banks contended that

these were "proceedings which have as their object rights in rem in immovable property or tenancies of immovable property" within the meaning of article 16 of the Convention (as incorporated into English law by the Civil Jurisdiction and Judgments Act 1982) so that "the courts of the Contracting State in which the property is situated" had exclusive jurisdiction; that by article 19 the UK courts were bound to decline jurisdiction; and that the plaintiffs' claims should he struck out.

John Williams (Carrathers & Co. Cambridge) for the Janetts, Neil Levy (Kennan Bell & Co, Liverpool, and Moriarty Westlake, Bristol) for the Joneses and Peacocks, Sam Neaman (Shoosmith & Harrison, Northampson) for Barclays; Fred Philpots and Julia Smith (Manby & Steward, Wolverhampton) for RBS; Peter Sayer (Davis & Co. Harrow) for FNB.

Lord Justice Morritt said the question whether the timeshare agreements were tenancies (or the grant of rights in rem over immovable property)

within article 16 must be determined in accordance with the interpretation of the European Court of Justice.

David Blondheim (died 1934:

No uniform interpretation had yet emerged but in the light of the court's decision in Rosler v Rouwinkel [1986] QB 33 that a short-term holiday letting was not excluded from article 16, his Lordship could see no reason for denying to the agreements in the present appeals the status of tenancies. In each case one party was entitled to the exclusive occupation of immovable property assumed by the con-tract to be owned by the other for a specified period in return for a sum of money. But his Lordship did not ac-

cept the banks' submission that the timeshare agreements were the "object" of the proceedings under the Consumer Credit ACL

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In each action the foundation of the claim against the bank was the debtor-creditorsupplier agreement. That cootract had attached to it the personal statutory rights conferred by the Act on the debtor. The enforcement of those statutory rights was based on the debtor-creditor-supplier agreement, not the timeshare

Paul Magrath, Barrister

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# business & city

BUSINESS & CITY EDITOR: JEREMY WARNER

# BT tipped to win £1bn armed forces phone contract

**Business Correspondent** 

The Government is expected to reveal today that BT has heaten Racal Electronics in a battle to win a £1bn contract to replace the vast private telephone network used by the armed forces.

The announcement, which will be made by the Ministry of Defence in the Commons, would mark another success for or Defence Fixed Telecommu-

BT in the week it announced its nications System. The outdat-£13bn agreement to buy the US ed network is run by BT with partners Logica and a consultancy firm, WS Atkins. A long-distance operator MCL However, it would represent a severe blow for Racal, which had launched a vigorous campaign attacking the BT bid,

lic interest. The contract is to renew the dedicated telephone and data network which connects UK military bases, known as DFTS,

arguing it was against the pub-

The MoD has already re-

duced the annual cost of running the system from £200m to £175m but was seeking further cuts of at least £40m. The other condition was that the web of 51 separate networks should be replaced by a single digital network by 2000.

Racal had formed a consortium called Rampart to bid to key element of the Rampart hid was that it would guarantee to employ all 600 existing civilian telecoms staff and take on a fur-

ther 250 people in contrast, BT has kept the details of its bid a close secret, though it is thought it may offer a larger one-off price cut than Racal's with similar total costs over the 10-year life of the

BT yesterday refrained from claiming victory ahead of the official announcement, though its team is thought to be confident of success.

Last night a Racal spokesman declined to forecast the outcome of the bidding processs, which has lasted for 18 months. He said: "We are not aware of a decision until it has been announced and we remain totally committed to our solution for

stepped up his attack on BT, claiming the two groups were running neck and neck in the race to win the contract. "I believe it is on a knife-edge. There is not a fag paper between us.

had claimed. Mr Elsbury had said that if BT won the contract it would effectively rule out any further com-

The difference is political," he

was "a drop in the ocean" to BT but would represented 10 per cent of Racal's annual sales.

Racal Electronics already runs data networks for 40 Government departments, in addition to operating private phone systems for the Department of Social Security, along with the chemicals group ICI, Norwich Union and WH Smith. It also runs the huge network which

Peter Rodgers Financial Editor

Hugh Stevenson, chairman of

Mercury Asset Management,

yesterday backed moves to in-

troduce competition into the

underwriting commissions charged for rights issues, as Schroders launched its second

cut-price imaging it five days.
Schroders anchiosed 96 percent of the underwriting for a
£48.6m rights issue for More
Group, the outdoor advertising

company, to help fund the acquisition of Swedish advertising

group Wennergren Williams. The auction saved the company

£109,000 - 11 per cent of the commissions - at the expense of

investing institutions such as

The move follows a similar

auction for Stakis, the hotels

group, last Thursday, which

saved 8 per cent. It is an attempt

to head off a Monopolies and Mergers Commission inquiry into high City underwriting

Mr Stevenson said: "We wel-

come anything that gives a freer system for underwriting." He

said that as long as preemption rights were oblight giving exist-ing shareholders first call on new

ipate in the process of change?—
Reporting interim profits at
MAM 29 per cent higher than
a year earlier at £81.8m before

tax, Mr Stevenson made clear

that the fund management

group could be in the market for

"we are ready to partic-

Two months ago David Elspointed out that the annual value of the 10-year deal, at £100m. If the MoD does pick BT at If the MoD does pick BT as the preferred bidder for DFTS it would come as Racal seeks to to identify its strategy following the lucrative demerger of the mobile phone company, Vodafone, and its Chubb locks business. Racal has concentrated on managed telephones and data networks and defence electronics products against accusations that it is left with

> There was speculation that MAM's sharply increased cash pile, up £72m to £262m in six

> months, could be used to fi-

nance a bid in the US market.

following the announcement of the proposed takeover of Texas-based AIM by Invesco.

Mr Stevenson said: "The US

MAM has huilt up its cash &

is an important market. It's

the biggest savings market in the world but value for our share-

pile over the past six months

from £191m to £261m. Mr

Stevenson said that the com-

pany preferred a conservative

halance sheet. Funds under management rose from £81bn in March to £85.9bn in Sep-5

tember, including £2bn of net

oew business and 40 oew man-l

dates to manage money pur-

The figures suggest MAM

will slip into second place! among independent UK fund

managers, behind Invesco,! when its takeover of AIM goes!

through. The merged company,

Amvesco, will have £91bn un-

der management at present

MAM declared an interim div-

idend of 10p a share, compared with last year's 6p, but the sharp increase was to reduce the im-t

balance between the interim and

final. An increase in provisions for:

homes payments for staff was re-

sponsible for part of the £22m in-

crease in operating costs to

£104m over the past 12 months."

The shares fell 20p to 1122.5p.

" Comment, page 21

chase pension schemes.

dollar exchange rates.

holders is the main aim."

MAM chief

backs cheaper

underwriting

# BA accounts dept sent to Bombay to save on wages

British Airways is to transfer part of its accounting operations to Bombay because wages levels in India are one-fifth of those in Britain. The move is part of BA's global efficiency will result in 5,000 job losses.

BA's accounting operations employ 2,000 people. Initially about 10 per cent of the work will be transferred to Bombay. where qualified staff can be recruited on wages of about £4,000 a year compared with £20,000 in Britain.

But more accountancy work will be outsourced if the exis a lot cheaper employing peo-ple in India," said BA's finance lowed to go ahead.

can get high calibre people for 20 per cent of the cost of employing them here. Bob Ayling, BA's chief exec-

utive, said the airline was looking to outsource more activities as part of the amhitious costdrive aimed at producing sav-ings of £1hn a year by the end of the decade. The programme experienced in the first half of the year was not sustainable. He was speaking as BA re-ported its first drop in operat-

ing profits since the Gulf War ing to spiralling fuel prices and the cost of last summer's threatened strike by pilots. BA also confirmed that it ex-

pected Ian Lang. President of the Board of Trade, to announce this month whether its periment proves successful. "It transatlantic alliance with

# French court clears Air Liberté takeover

last night cleared the way for erté, while the French banking British Airways to take control of the reginnal airline Air Liberte in a deal that will give it a 33 per cent. nne-fifth share of domestic flights from Orly airport, writes Michael Harrison.

BA is to invest £55m and take



Bob Ayling: Takeover 'good

group Banque Rivand will invest Fr190m for the remaining

Mare Rochet, chairman of BA's existing French subsidiary, TAT European Airlines, will become chairman and chief executive of Air Liberté, although the two carriers will be kept dis-

Clearance for the takeover came after the Commercial Tribunal in Creteil accepted the recovery plan for Air Liberté pnt forward by BA and Rivaud

in preference to liquidation. The plan is designed in return Air Liberte to profitability in three years and will safeguard 1,200 jobs. BA has pledged to retain Air Liberte's fleet of 13 aircraft, increase freuencies on services from Orly to Bordeany and Nice and resume services from Paris to Montpellier and Gatwick to Bordeaux and Toulouse.

"This is good news for the airline, for its staff and for French air travellers," said BA's chief executive Boh Ayling.

Mr Ayling was speaking as BA reported a 2 per cent drop in operating profits to £512m for the six months to the end of September - the first time profits have fallen since Iraq invaded Kuwait in 1990.

The decline was due to £51m increase in aviation fuel costs and the £15m impact of the threatened pilots strike earlier this year. BA also warned that fuel costs were likely to hardened further in the current quarter because of the rise in oil prices.

With jet kerosene prices like-ly to hit 85 cents a gallon this winter against 60 cents a gallon a year ago, BA could be looking at an extra £130m in fuel charges a vear.

At the pre-tax level, BA's profits rose by 9 per cent to a record £470m, helped by a £45m contribution from its as-sociate airlines. Qantas chipped in £26m in pre-tax profits and a further £19m of synergy benefits, while USAir, in which BA has a 24.6 per cent stake, paid a resumed dividend of \$17.3m. Mr Ayling said ... he still hoped to persuade USAir to maintain its long-term relationship with BA even though the US carrier has said it intends to abandon its codeshare agreement with BA next March in protest at the link-up

with American. He added that USAir's antitrust lawsuit against BA and American was "an action withsoever of success" and said the two carriers remained as determined as ever to pull the deal

Asked when he expected Mu Lang to rule on the alliance. Mr Ayling said: "If we haven't passed the milestone of the British competition authorities by the end of this month 1 would be disappointed."

Mr Ayling also said BA would continue to resist any attempt to strip it of take-off and landing slots at Heathrow as a condition for approving the alliance. "I still do not see any case for BA losing slots. It would be terribly unfair apart from anything else."



Fayed pays £52m for Alpha stake

JOHN WILLCOCK

Mohamed Al Faved, the chairman of Harrods, has paid £52m for a 25 per cent stake in Alpha Airports in an attempt to extend Harrods' airport retailing op-

erations. Alpha has 80 shops in the UK and the US. Mr Fayed has bought the Alpha stake from Granada using one of his private companies, Cylena Establishments, rather than through Harrods. Cylena said last night that in the

it will not make an offer for the remaining shares of Alpha for at least six months.

Harrods already owns "signature shops" in Japan, Hong Kong and Singapore, and runs tax free shops in Heathrow, as well as airports in Hamhurg, Vienna and Frankfurt.

Alpha Retail Services, with a turnover in 1995/6 of nearly £300m, operates an extensive range of duty and tax free shops in airports, many of which are simply called "Duty Free Shop-ping." Alpha also operates air-

port shops under licence from at Heathrow. Alpha also pro-Drugstore, Swatch, Lillywhites, vides in-flight catering, provid-Timherland, The Beauty Centre and others.

It is understood that Mr Fayed believes that Alpha's other two operating divisions may also enjoy synergies with some of his other interests.

Alpha Ground Services has over 50 airport locations in the US with a combined turnover of £42.4m, while Mr Fayed owns Metro Business Aviation, previously Hunting Aviation, which provides ground services

ing 40 million meals a year to a total of 100 airlines. Alpha said the saie via

Lazards to Mr Fayed came as "an unexpected development". "We have had no discussion or contact with Mr Fayed. Certainly we would want to meet with him as soon as possible."

There had been speculation recently that BAA may have been interested in the Alpha stake. Granada acquired the stake when it bought Forte.



Fayed takes Granada's stake

# Pro-Europe campaign spills on to the streets

INTEREST RATES

Diane Coyle Economics Editor

The increasingly bitter struggle over the future of the pound reached the streets of the City yesterday. At 6 30m outside Linerpool Street station supporters of the European Movement, a pro-European campaign group, were handing out leaflets making the case for membership of the single currency.

The group has a stock of 8,000 leaflets, titled "The Other Side of the Coin", and an annual grant of £20,000 from the EU with which to promote its

cause. As the Labour MP Giles Radice, its chairman, observed ructully at the official launch, the European Movement is easily outspent by Sir James Goldsmith's Referendum Party.

The brochure, which will be handed out at the CBI's annual conference this month and sent to financial institutions and banks, tries to tackle the most frequent objections to European Monetary Union. Mr Radice found himself on the defensive over suggestions

that the Labour Party was moving away from its earlier sympathy for the idea that Britain

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in the first wave. Robin Cook, the party's for-

eign affairs spokesman, said last month it would be hard for Britain to join in the first wave in 1999. But Mr Radice said yesterday: "My own view on the position is exactly as it was Conservative MP Quentin

Davies, a vice-chairman of the European Movement, warned: Wait and see is not a cost-free

He said if Britain did not join. its interest rates would have to be higher than those in the

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should join the single currency Euro-zone and the country would become less attractive to foreign investors.

absence of a third party offer,

John Stevens, the Tory MEP for Thames Valley, said the European Movement wanted to make a positive case for joining the single currency. Joining would be the most powerful boost to the City's position there has ever been." he said.

However, the new pamphlet concentrates on countering some of the most common arguments against UK membership. A lot of these were "very ill-founded", Mr Radice said. The campaign claims that

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Britain will not lose the power to run an independent government spending and tax policy. Nor will there have to be big subsidies of poor member countries by rich ones.

It argues that the single currency would create jobs rather than increase unemployment because interest rates would be much lower if Britain were part of the Euro block. Mortgage rates would be able to fall too. It also challenges high estimates of the costs of switching

over to the Euro, saying that

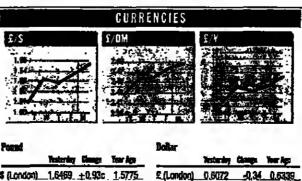
banks and shops would have to

spend large amounts on up-

software anyway. It puts the total transition cost at £2.5bn. Mr Radice acknowledged that monetary union would lead to closer political integra-tion. But he added: "There is no evidence that the great British public is concerned about sovereignty. What they are interested in is the bread-and-butter

grading their equipment and

Lord Kingsdown, former Governor of the Bank of England, who was also backing the launch, said: "The idea that any individual country has monetary sovereignty is illusory."



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# Gehe in £651m bid for Unichem

Magnus Crimond

Gebe of Germany yesterday renewed its assault on Lloyds Chemists with a £651m bid which almost exactly matches the rival offer from UniChem. The 500p share all-cash bid is being made on almost the same terms as an earlier offer which lapsed when bids from both Gehe were eferred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

The move was not unexpected and comes just ahead of the Friday deadline set when the Department of Trade and Industry gave the conditional goahead for renewed bidding last month. But the level bid was lower than some analysts had been forecasting and Lloyds' shares slipped 5.5p to 511p.

frey Harris said he saw no reason to raise UniChem's bid in the short term but did not rule out returning with a higher offer. "At least the gloves are off now and we know what we are up against. The best thing [today] is the bounce in the UniChem share price, which clearly shows that our institutional shareholders are behind us."

Lloyds' shares remain well clear of both offers, with the UniChem bid valuing them at 501p after a 3.5p rise in its own share price to 255p yesterday,

gest that the German offer would not necessarily clinch a! deal. Kevin Scotcher of Nat West Markets said: "This is an opening shot, from what Is can gather. It is certainly not as final offer, so we can't assume

it is their last offer." Tony Cooper of Greig Mid-dleton said he was slightly surprised that Gehe had come. back at the same level as before. "It has left UniChem with a little hit of a free hand. If they are keen to acquire this...they could

come back and take this now," The Gehe hid was accompanied by renewed claims that the value of Lloyds had been impaired since the previous bid battle. Dieter Kammerer, the! Gehe chairman, described their UniChem chief executive Jef- renewed offer as "notably gencrous, given the deterioration in Lloyds Chemists' performance in the last financial year." He! claimed the cash offer provid-! ed certainty of value against UniChem terms which consisted largely of shares.

The German group launched a wide-ranging attack ont UniChem's claims concerning the takeover. It said the pro forma gearing would rise to more: than 350 per cent. It also questioned its rival's assumptions: about the potential synergies, saying they were "optimistic".

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The threatened NHS crisis has been averted at the eleventh hour - but does this mean there will be no room

at all for tax cuts?"

The pre-election Budget designed to appeal to our virtue rather than our pockets is fast becoming a matter of financial necessity for Kenneth Clarke, rather than one of choice. In the bizarre and secretive manner in which these decisions emerge from the dingy corridors of Whitehall into the light of day, it has become clear that yesterday's Cabinet meeting found extra cash for spending on health and education, the Government's two priority areas. The threatened NHS crisis has been avened at the eleventh hour - but does this mean there will be no

room at all for tax cuts? Kenneth Clarke has been engaged a one-man campaign to persuade both the City and his own party that nobody should be looking for a big tax bonanza this year. If you believe this - and half the City does, while the other half reckons it is simply news management to prepare the ground for a big giveaway - then the health and education

expected this year means that the existing cash limits allow for a bit more growth in real terms than expected. But it will be difficult to recoup the entra £500m-£1bn for health and any extra for education just agreed by the Cabinet through cuts in other departments' spending totals. It would not be plansible for Mr Clarke to announce cuts in the overall spending figure when he stands up on 26th November. Even an unchanged total

will strain credibility. The Chancellor's other priority is to keep the profile of government borrowing on a downward path without the embarrassment of having to postpone a halanced budget until the next millennium. That leaves just two options on the tax front. Mr Clarke is either looking at a very modest reduction of a billion or two, perhaps a penny off the basic rate of income tax. Alternatively he could achieve a bit more with perhaps the abolition of inheritance tax thrown in for good measure by raising corporate taxes. Why leave that option open for Labour's first bud-

get, after all?

All this forgets the rabbit lurking in the bottom of the Chancellor's hat. His current forecasts for tax revenues are extremely cantious, revised down after the notorious shortfall in VAT and corporation tax receipts last year. Close some loopholes, point to the very buoyant economy, and hey prestol Suddenly the circle is squared. Mr Clarke can allow higher spending on hospitals and schools, succeed in producing prudent bor-

The numbers look worse and worse for Clarke

### BA may fly under a flag of convenience

A ways flight 100 to Bombay is about to de-part. Those passengers with onward tre in Taipei and those requiring hotel reservations will find our central marketing

tered in Liberia and all the flight attendants are Greek, unless they are Chinese. We hope you enjoy the flight and thank you for choosing British Airways, unless of course you were unlucky enough to work in the accounts

ful and the wages are only a fifth of those back home, will be met with an under-standable mix of fear and trepidation among the rest of the workforce.

If this is what becoming a "virtual airline" means, then the sky is truly the limit. If the books can be kept just as easily in Bombay

other backroom function. Indeed, why stop there? Engineering and aircraft maintenance could be done just as easily somewhere in the Asia Pacific where the wage rates are low and they don't have the burden of all those social wage costs. Even the stewardesses need not be employed and paid according to British working practices and salary levels since they spend half their time in international airspace.

It may be that the only way BA can achieve its target of £1bn in savings is through such draconian action. It does not stop at accounts clerks. Ground handling staff have already been told they will lose their jobs unless they take pay cuts, the same fate is awaiting regional cabin crew. BA is an exceptional air-line. But in its pursuit of cost-cuts it is in danger of inadvertently turning itself into an anline flying under a flag of convenience. The effect would be to devalue the brand and create more problems than it solves.

### Schroders could derail the gravy train

"tartel? What cartel? Yesterday's £48m rights issue for More Group was the second time in less than a week that Schroders has successfully tried out its new auction systil now, the City has operated a fixed as lower fees. Now it is up to companies to commission system that has been eved with act on the suggestion.

rowing forecasts and justify a couple of billass Brentford then why not outsource every deep suspicion by the Office of Fair Tradition off taxes as well. Magic.

Schroders has demonstrated that there are savings to be made - though not enormous ones - and it plans to continue fine-tuning the auction method in the light of experience with the first two. Meanwhile, fund managers - the people who benefit most from fixed commissions - are lining up solidly behind the initiative, out out of altruism but because it looks like the best way of persuading the OFT not to refer the whole mat-

spending deal reinforces the message.
For the Budget arithmetic looks prenty unforgiving. The Government's borrowing requirement this financial year, the fifth of the recovery, is likely to be a couple of billion higher than the Treasury's latest fore-cast of £26.9on. The massive deficits at hospitals across the country highlight how tough a task the Chancellor set in last year's spending plans. Expenditure control is never easy. In the 12 months before an election,

connections should contact our global ticketing headquarters in Kuala Lumpur, those with lost luggage complaints should direct their enquiries to our worldwide haggage condepartment in Labore only too willing to help. In the event of a sudden loss of cabin pres-sure, you will find that this aircraft is regis-

BA's decision to outsource 10 per cent of its accounting operations to the Indian subcontinent, where qualified staff are plenti-

for merchant banks and institutions.

ter to the Monopolies Commission.

Meanwhile, there is a second, less well publicised but related initiative that could prove equally potent a tool in defence of the under-

writing system, and the closely related matter of pre-emption rights, the mechanism that gives shareholders first call on any new issue. One reason rights issues often look expensive as a way of raising capital is that companies invariably maintain or even raise the dividend at the same time, to keep investors sweet.

The discount in a rights issue is equiva-

lent to a free issue of shares, and so the dividend really ought to be cut rather than maintained or raised. Otherwise, the critics have a point when they say rights usues are expensive ways of raising capital. The National Association of Pension Funds and the Association of British Insurers say they tem for sub-underwriting commissions. Un- are receptive in flexible dividends, as well

Economy: Whitbread and M&S promise 5,000 new jobs as tourism surges and manufacturing output rises

# **Boom conditions** back for the high street and industry

Tom Stevenson and Diane Coyle

Further evidence emerged yesterday of a return to boom conditions on the high street and in industry as two of Britain's largest retailers promised to create 5,000 new jobs this year, tourism surged and manufacturing data showed the first quarterly rise in output for a year.

with a vengeance, according to Peter Jarvis, chief executive of Whitbread, the brewing and leisure group that yesterday-reported a 14 per cent rise in first-balf profits. With the ben-efits of tax cuts and better job ed out that manufacturing outsecurity, he said he expected the put had climbed by only 2.1 per good times to roll at the group's cent since 1990. There were also restaurants, pubs and hotels concerns that the strength of the for at least the next two years. Whitbread plans to create 3,000

Marks & Spencer added to in its UK stores in the half year to September were 8 per cent higher and Sir Richard Green-

chief executive received £204,133.

with suppliers to drive sales barder.

Industry is starting to share in the economic recovery, new figures suggested yesterday. Manufacturing output rose 0.7 per cent in the the three months to September, its first quarterly rise for a year, virtually regaining its 1995 peak.

The favourable output figures delighted the Government. The feelgood factor is back. Angela Knight, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, said: "The gloomy days are gone and the sun is shining on British industry." Labour welcomed the news

100, but Margaret Beckett, pound, which rose briefly above DM2.50 yesterday, could harm

Higher estimates of producthe good cheer with the an-nouncement that it would be with early results showing that adding 2,000 to its payroll. Sales . manufacturers built up stock levels in the third quarter, are likely to lead to an upward re-visioo in gross domestic prodbury, executive chairman, said: uct. The preliminary estimate of Consumer confidence seems to: a 0.8 per cent increase in GDP be returning so we are working was already high enough to

The Cable Communications Association yesterday rejected the

new rate card proposed by BSkyB, the pay-TV giant, and called on the Office of Fair Trading to set a "fair and reasonable frame-

work" for the supply of Sky's channels to the cable industry. Con-

Estate agents are warning the Chancellor to leave the hous-

than half of all estate agents feel the recovery is fragile and just over half fear the Chancelior will reduce the rate at which tax

relief is given on mortgage interest from 15 per cent to 10 per

cent or less in the next tax year. A similar proportion thinks arise

Nintendo, the Japanese computer games company, said prof-

its fell by more than half in the first six months as sales of new

games and game machines failed to make up for declining sales

of older models. The company sold 1.16 million Nintendo 64 game

machines in Japan by the eod of September, compared with a target of 1.8 million units. Pre-tax profits fell 53 per cent to 30.01

panies had failed to give satisfactory replies to warning letters sent out by the EU Commission three months ago. One-2-One re-

billion yen (\$267.9m) in the six months to 30 September.

ing market alone in the Budget if the rally is to continue. More than half of all estate agents feel the recovery is fragile and just

in base rates would have an adverse effect on the market.

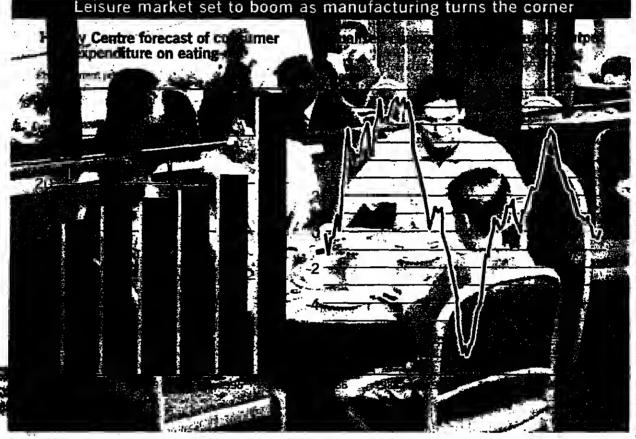
have triggered last week's quarter point increase in base rates.

Many City economists believe the strength of the economy's recovery will make another increase in interest rates necessary if the Government is to meet its inflation target. "Above-trend growth in GDP should be maintained. This will keep upward pressure on interest rates," said David Walton at Goldman Sachs. Mr Jarvis said part of Whit-

bread's success was due to stronger markets but he attribentra di pententina

quoted a recent study of Britain's leisure markets that predicted. The future is female: women's stamp on society will become more marked as theirparticipation in work continues to grow and they begin to out-perform males at all levels of educational attainment." . Whitbread dominates the ca-

sual eating out market in Britain, owning the top three non-burger chains, Beefeater, Pittra Hitt and Brewers Fayre. It has also targeted the two fastest



growing age groups, people aged between 35 and 44 and be-tween 55 and 64, who have tra-ditionally been light users of pubs but have been increasingwooed by more assute marketing of pubs and restaurants.

Mr Jarvis also highlighted the rapid rise in tourist numbers visiting Britain in recent years. which has benefited its hudget Travel Inn chain and the fourstar Marriott hotels it acquired

last year. More than 26 million visitors spent an average of £550 each on UK holidays in 1995 and the value of the market is forecast to soar by the year

Mr Jarvis said Whitbread's improved performance reflected better trading conditions but also the company's success in taking market share from its competitors and the benefits of a heavy capital expenditure and

acquisitions programme in recent years.

The gains in manufacturing output in the third quarter were spread across several industries, especially eogineering.

Production by the engineering industry rose 1.3 per cent during July-September to reach an all-time high, driveo hy record output of electrical equipment including computers. Computer production has been growing at a consistently strong annual rate

of 2-4 per cent. There was a 1.7 per cent increase in textiles, leather and clothing, and smaller increases in output of basic metals and "other" manufacturing.

Within manufacturing, output of the food, drink and inbacco, nuclear and chemicals industries declined compared with the second quarter.

# Northern says 630p a share is too low

Michael Harrison

A slanging match broke out lest oight between Northern Electric and CE Electric, the US consortium which has tabled a hostile £759m offer, over the value of the last takeover hid for

the company. CE Electric, jointly owned by the Nebraskan-based CalEnergy and American construction group Kiewit, said its 6300-ashare offer compared with an effective offer of 633p in 1995 from Trafalgar House.

However, Northern hit back. saying the true value of Trafalgar's final offer had been 732p and urged shareholders to re-

ject the bid. lo the offer document, posted yesterday, CE Electric urges Northern shareholders to accept the hid, warning that Nurthern faces an uncertain future from 1998 and the possibility of an

£81m windfall tax demand. Its chairman, David Sokol, also says in a letter in Northern shareholders that the payouts Northern produced in fend off Trafalgar had significantly re-duced its ability to pay additional special dividends in the face of a tougher regulatory en-

vironment. But David Morris, the Northern chairman, responded by saying that CE Electric was trying to buy the business on the cheap. He said that accepting the offer would denrive share. halders of a second special dividend of 56.5p payable next February and the interim dividend, which analysts reckon

will be about 13p. He said: "Northern Electric will make a series of important announcements which will huild a compelling picture of the value which has been created since we were last subject to a hostile after as well as the value of the husiness going forward."

CE Electric's valuation of 633p is hased on taking Trafalgar's original offer of £11 a share and then deducting the gross value of the distributions Northem has made to shareholders and then adjusting for its subsequent 23-fnr-26 share con-solidation.

Nurthern says that the bencfit of a tax credit on special dividend distributions does not result in a corresponding fall in the value of the company paying those dividends because it is the taxpayer, not the distributing company, that bears the

cost of the tax credit. On that basis, the implied bid price, if CE Electric were to match what Trafalgar offered. would he 99p higher. Northern held talks with CE

Electric prior to the launch of the bid and said an offer had been discussed at around a price of 700p a share. CE Elec-

# Anglian Water pledges | BP denies human to fight windfall tax

Chris Godsmark Business Correspondent

firming a report in yesterday's Independent, the industry unanimously agreed to support the campaign to win concessions from BSkyB. Meanwhile, it emerged last night that the CCA will oo longer handle marketing on behalf of the cable industry, in what was seen as an admission that a £12m joint promotional campaign starring Dawn French earlier this year had been a failure. The CCA will be engaged strictly in political lobbying and regulatory technical issues on behalf of the industry. Anglian Water yesterday intensified the attack by the privatised utilities ou Labour's proposed windfall tax, pledging to mount a legal challenge to the policy should the party win power in the next election. The Greenbury code on executive pay is beginning to bite, according to the annual survey of directors' salaries and benefits by actuaries Bacon & Woodrow. It shows that pay rises among directors are running at 7.6 per cent. However, chief executives Alan Smith, Anglian's group managing director, described increases are lower, at an average of 6.6 per cent. The average main board director received a basic salary of £117,829, while a

the tax as iniquitous and claimed the privatised water firms did not have enough surplus cash to fund it. Anglian is believed to have instructed lawyers to examine Labour's outline proposals in more de-tail, though Mr Smith admitted many aspects of the policy were still unknown.

"We are doing our homework in trying to understand what the legal position might be. If it is not legal in our view, or if we believe it's in breach of European law, then we would certainly consider going to court," he said. The comments are the toughest so far by one of the priva-

tised water companies and are



consider going to court'

markedly stronger than recent opposition to the tax voiced by Thames Water. However, John Devaney, executive chairman of Eastern Group, the regional electricity company owned by Hanson, has previously argued that any responsible board of directors would be obliged to challenge the tax's legality.



Mr Smith made the comments as Anglian unveiled a modest 5.5 per cent rise in half

### yearly profits to £1327m and said it would invest a further £34m in improving water distribution. The company raised its in-terim dividend payout, all of which comes from profits in the core regulated water and sewerage husinesses. by 14.6 per cent to 10.2p. However this was lower than the 22 per cent dividend increase announced by Thames Water last month. Anglian also raised the pos-

tends to raise its marketing spending to form a year, but yesterday admitted these businesses would not make profits until the next century.

### Losses at the company's un-regulated contracting and engineering businesses rose from tacks on its oil installations £4.5m to £6.5m between April and September because of entra cash speot on marketing activities. Anglian has already said it in-

sibility of further job losses in

addition to almost 900 so far.

The disclosure came as a surprise to City water analysis. Shares in Anglian fell 11.5p to

# rights abuses

Chris Godsmark **Business Correspondent** 

BP has urged authorities in Colombia to investigate allegations that the oil giant has col-laborated with human rights ahuses committed by the country's armed forces. John Browne, the chief ex-

ecutive, insisted yesterday that complaints to the Colombian prosecutor's office were "absolutely groundless". BP pays \$8.6m in taxes and lodgings for the military guards, who are intended to prevent at-

from left-wing guerrilla groups. However, in a sign that opportunities for BP in the counwere deterioration, Mr Browne said prospects for future investments "don't look

very good".

The oews emerged as BP strengthened its position at the top of the oil industry earnings league as it revealed record profits in the third quarter of the year and predicted that the Shares in the group edged up high level of oil prices which by 2p to close at 640.5p.

surged by 22 per cent in the three months to the end of Sep-tember to £650m. Taking the first nine months of the year as a whole. BP's earnings also hit

have helped in boost revenues

would continue well into next

hasis before exceptional items

Profits on a replacement cost

record levels, increasing by 28 per cent to £1.931hn. Like other oil giants, BP's earnings were boosted by the rise in oil prices, which averaged \$20,20 a burrel. \$2,30 higher than a year ago. Producting volumes grew by 6 per cent while onderlying profits from up-stream activities jumped by a

third to £761m. However, Mr Browne said the benefit from rising oil prices had been more than outweighed by sharply lower profit margins in chemicals operations.

BP increased its dividend by

25 per cent to 5p in the third quarter, the same level as the previous three-month period.

# NatWest's Hong Kong joint venture called off

joint venture between

terday that it is to buy full con-trol of Wheelock Nat West, which is 50 percent owned by

The failure of the arrange-

ment with Mr Woo after such a brief period could be embarrassing for NatWest's ambitions in Hong Kong, because he is one of the leading candidates for the post of chief executive following the return to Chinese

NatWest blamed the decision on the increasing risk of oper-

Wheelock, the conglomerate ating a partly owned trading Mr Woo controls.

ating a partly owned trading business in the Far East and said it had concluded it was best for it to become a wholly owned subsidiary of the bank. The 50:50 joint venture was announced in 1994 and began op-

> announcement ended a short and bumpy association between NatWest and Wheelock.

Mr Woo had angrily telephoned Lord Alexander, chairman of Nat West, to complain about the at the end of last week. way the joint venture had been

But it refused to comment on by not teiling him of plans to buy Garimore, the fund management group, which owns a competing Hong Kong business. It confirmed that the acquisition

Nat West denied a report that of Gartmore had led to the closure of the fund management business of Wheelock Nat West

NatWest Markets said recent trading scandals around the world had made it more difficlaims that it had upset Mr Woo cult for joint ventures to operate under British rules in Asian markets with the highest growth, such as equity and de-

rivatives trading. We did recognise at a very

early stage that there was a certain amount of risk we could accommodate within the joint venture vehicle," John Howland-Jackson, NatWest Markets' newly appointed chairman for Asia Pacific, said in Hong Kong.

"We were perhaps not hargaining on a series of events around the world in a variety of traded markets that would cause such scrutiny of trading busi-

The second secon A Secretary of the second of t

out by the EU Commission three months ago it responded to concerns sponded by saying that three months ago it responded to concerns by visiting the commission. It expected guidelines for the aise of "loyalty" locks to be published by the commission and had not received any communication from the commission for three months.

• Firstbus, one of Britain's largest bus companies, has placed an £80m order for 914 new buses. A feeth of Settlebicles, worth £50m, have been ordered for the year ending \$150 min 1998, with an initial order of 330 vehicles worth £30m for 1998-99.

The vice premier of China, Li Langing, headed a delegation to the London Stock Exchange yesterday to learn more about the opportunities for Chinese companies to raise capital in London. The visit follows the recent strong of a memorandum of tinderstanding between the UK and Chinese regulatory authorities, paving the way for Chinese companies to list in London.

Two British mobile phone companies, Orange and One-2-One, have been challenged by Brussels to justify "loyalty" locks which the customers to one operator service. EU officials said both companies had failed to give satisfactory replies to warning letters sent Peter Rodgers Financial Editor

NatWest Markets and Peter Woo Kwong-Ching, a leading Hong Kong businessinan, has ended in controversy after only a year of operation. NatWest Markets said yes-

sovereignty next year.

erating in the second half of last Hong Kong sources said the

# M&S is forced to look overseas

tanker of UK retailing, but its overseas expansion programme is taking the stores group into uncharted waters. Led by its irascible captain, Sir Richard Greenbury, the group will this year double capital expenditure on its foreign stores to around £120m or roughly a third of the total budgeted spend of £350m. Around half the increase in space planned for 1996-97 will be overseas, which represents a step

change on previous years. In the past, Marks has been content to allow its relatively small North American and European operations to chug along while the UK made all the running. But half-year figures yesterday gave a clue to the imperative which is driving the group overseas. Pre-tax profits 12 per cent higher at £430m in the six months to September disappointed the market, sending the shares

down 26p to 483p.
Sales in the UK climbed 8.4 per cent to £2.84bn in the half, a bealthy performance even after stripping out the effects of new stores, which would probably reduce that figure by 1 percentage point or so.

Yet despite the top line growth, operating margins refused to budge above an admittedly highly respectable 12 per cent. Indeed costs rosc around 9 per cent in the period, wrongfooting some analysts.

Marks took on an extra 1,500 staff last year and is in the throes of adding another 2,250, increasing UK staff numbers by around 6 per cent this year. That looks generous against the 3 per cent rise in store space expected and it is clear that, despite signs of a revival in consumer spending in Britain, Marks at least thinks it will have to work barder in terms of service to win and maintain the loyalty of shoppers.

Such prudence is probably justified, given recent sales trends. Clothing, footwear and gifts, still the backbone of the husiness, turned in a sound 8.8 per cent rise to £1.51bn in the six months. Home furnishings, up 27 per cent off a low base to £104m, is tank-ing ahead on the back of the revived housing market.

But although Marks has retained its market sbare, the food sector, up 6.6 per cent, remains under pressure. Volume growth decelerated hetween the first and second quarters and prices are also not rising as fast as they

These are probably quibbles now, but Marks is right to be thinking of the fu-

3.06m (2.98m)

3.53bn (3.23bn)

Strategem Group (F) 131.1m (90.72m) -3.03m (4.05m)

62.5m (128.5m)

151.6m (121.0m) 20.45m (17.08m)

COMPANY RESULTS

32.2m (34.0m)

1.5m (-6.84m)

81.8m (63.6m)

980,000 (940,000)

### THE INVESTMENT COLUMN

EDITED BY TOM STEVENSON

80 places in the UK where a new store or extension could double sales just demonstrates the constraints on further expansion in the home market. Yet the latest £129m profits from overseas businesses, hailed as their first meanineful contribution, have taken years to achieve and are expensive. Opening costs for four new stores in Europe were £6.8m, or 61 per cent of first-half

Profits of around £1.1bn this year would put the shares on a forward mul-tiple of 18. High enough for now.

### Whitbread shows the way

These were good figures from Whit-bread, but so they should have been against an increasingly benign con-sumer background. They looked doubly good because there were improvements across the board and no banana skins. At the top end of expectations, the re-

sults, showing a rise in underlying pre-tax profits from £155.7m to £177.5m, helped the shares rise 5.5p yesterday to close at 746p, within striking distance of their all time high and more than twice in that traditional core Whitbread has the level they traded at four years ago. After a 15 per cent rise in earnings per share to 27.1p, the interim dividend

rose 9 per cent to 6.25p. Whithread is proving itself to be a

Dhridead

10.2p (8.9p)

5.65p (5.25p)

4.250 (-)

5.0p (4.0p)

2.80 (2.80)

10.0p (5.0p)

3.3p (3.0p)

2.80 (2.50)

46.7p (41.2p)

20.0p (21.4p)

39.7p (33.8p)

37.0p (23.2p)

2.0p (-8.2p)

9.80 (9.70)

30.9p (24.2p)

10.4p (9.3p)

17.30 (14.50)

-5.4p (19.8p)

ture. Sir Richard's boast that there are really intelligent company, way ahead effit from rising leisure spending. A good long-term hold. of its peers in the way it has thought strategically about where the British leisure pound is going and how it can grab an increasingly fatter slice of that growing market. Perhaps it is a re-flection of his time at Unilever dream-

> mographic shifts and changes in the public's aspirations. Whenever the company has bought itself into new niches of the leisure market, whether fitness through David Lloyd or semi-sophisticated urban eating out through Pelican, it has been able to defend the move (and its cost) with empirical evidence of the market forces that will make the deal work. Whitbread may occasionally be guilty of paying over the odds to secure a po-

> sition, but it has always been right to

ing up Captain Birdseye, hat Peter

Jarvis appears to have a better grasp than most of the significance of de-

take it. As a result, Whitbread has become Britain's dominant retailer in drinks, eating out and accommodation, with an unrivalled portfolio of brands from Marriott and Travel Inn to Beefeater and Brewers Fayre, from Thresher and Pizza Hut to Cafe Rouge and Costa Coffee. Brewing now accounts for a small proportion of profits, but even sensibly focused on the growing takehome market, where its strong Stella Artois and Heineken brands are in-

creasingly successful. On the basis of forecast profits of £320m to next February and £360m the following year, the shares trade on a prospective price/earnings ratio of 15 falling to 13.5. That is not demanding for a company so well placed to ben-

### Majestic start for wine chain

Majestic Wine, the UK's largest wine warehouse chain, priced its forthcoming AIM flotation at 160p yesterday, putting a value of £20.4m on the enlarged group. First indications are that the issue has been about three times subscribed, which should augur well for first dealings next Monday.

Majestic operates 61 specialist wine warehouses selling wine by the case to an affluent, knowledgeable clientele. All its outlets are relatively large, with their own car parking, and the chain attempts to differentiate itself from the supermarkets on the one hand and off-licences on the other with a wide range, wine tasting every day and informed staff who beln customers make a selection rather than just take their money.

The intention is to use the £4.4m proceeds of the placing to roll out a further eight stores a year to expand the chain from its beavy bias on London and the South-east

The financial record is impressive, with operating profit before one-off distortions rising smartly from £449,000 in the year to March 1994 to £812,000 in 1995 and £1.2m in the year to last April. During that time the portfolio has grown from 44 warehouses to 61.

One of the problems in valuing Majestic is that there are no comparable companies on the market. Most of the off-licence chains, such as Thresher and Victoria Wine, are part of larger leisure groups (Whitbread and Allied Domeco), and much of the wine trade is now conducted through supermarkets, with the rest through private independent concerns.

On the basis of forecasts from Maestic's nominated hroker, Williams de Broe, the shares are heing placed oo a multiple of 17 or 18 times fully diluted earnings per share. That seems fairly ambitious, given the heavyweight opposition Majestic is up against, but the company appears to occupy a niche and a continuation of recent growth will soon bring that rating lower.

# Biggest bankrupt lands in hot water yet again PEOPLE & BUSINESS

Here's a hlast from the past. William "Willie" Stern, once Britain's biggest bankrupt, and his son, Mark Stern, are facing proceedings to disqualify them as directors of public companies by the

Department of Trade and Industry. Mr Stern won fame in 1974 when his Wilstar property group collapsed and be was made personally bankrupt for £118m, a UK record. That record passed to Rajendra Sethia in 1979, who went down for £140m. Then Kevin Maxwell took up the baton with his £406.5m

bankruptcy in 1992. The DTI launched proceedings against Willie and Mark Stern on 24 October this year in relation. to Westminster Property Management and other companies. The Inland Revenue issued a winding up order against Westminster on 26 October 1994, and the DTT's disqualification proceedings will begin in court on 13 January.

A DTI spokesman said that "generally, disqualification proceedings are brought because a director is thought to be unfit to run a public company".

The dozy world of accountancy was electrified yesterday as a renegade professor claimed the head of one of the profession's

Jim Waits, vice-president .. of the Chartered Association. of Certified Accountants (Acca), tendered his resignation because of comments he made last week about Prem Sikka, a professor of accountancy at

Essex University. Mr Waits said in his resignation note that the Acca was right to expect its officers to uphold the high standing of the association

comments which I made last. Thursday did not fulfil that obligation".

The events refer to last week's EGM called by Professor Sikka to discuss greater democracy at Acca. All went off quietly enough all reform motions were heavily defeated as usual.

Theo up stood Mr Waits, in line to be Acca president in about 15 months' time. Mr Waits laid into Professor Sikka, accusing him of being



William Stern: DTI wants to disqualify him and his son

anti-Semitic for seeking EGMs on a Saturday, senist and racist, and suggesting he form his own organisation, called something like the Worldwide Association of Non-Chartered Certified

Accountants. Happily, Professor Sikka is in a conciliatory mood about what be calls "barroom type language", said he forgives Mr Waits and urges that "everybody get

back to the issues". The professor adds that he was disappointed by the behaviour of an officer of a professional body and hoped Mr Waits would resign from the council, too. "If I ever needed to make my point about the need to get rid of

leadership based on buggios' turn, this is it," he said.

Sir Richard Greenbury executive chairman of the mighty Marks & Spencer. insisted his staff should be more polite to customers yesterday - just as he slapped down our own correspondent for the impertineoce of asking more than one supplementary

question. Sir Richard, when asked by a German journalist yesterday what expansion plans he had for Germany. where Marks's has just opened its first store, said; "Our expansion plans are dictated by the pace at which we can acquire sites. If you have any knowledge or any inside tracks on where we can obtain sites in any one of 16 cities, please telephone Keith Oates [deputy

chairman]."
M&S should be helped by liberalisation of German shopping hours, which until recently have been short. Now Teutonic shops can stay open until 4pm on Saturdays and 8pm on weekdays.

Richard Northcott has won the Alternative Best Use of AIM award from the AIM Newsletter for making the most money out of the market. Andrew Griffiths, editor of AIM Newsletter. said: "He has shepherded no fewer than three businesses to AIM this year."
Mr Northcott's best-

known winner is Pet City. which made him £26.5m recently.

AIM Newsletter quotes a friend of Mr Northcott's as saying: "He will be delighted. He likes people to know how well he is doing."

John Willcock

MAR		PENCER			INCE
	Market va	lue: £13.6bn, s	hare price 4	83p	
ing record		1995 1996 - Full year ——			Share price pence
# (Sbs)	11.0	- Full year -	3.25 3.	53 300	. v
	050	004 000	005 40		

	larket va	alue: £13	3.6bn, s	hare pric	ce 483 <sub>9</sub>	3	
Trading record	1994		1996	1995 _ Half	1996 year.,		Share price pence
Tablover (Sbs)	i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i	para sia Ario an	145	3.25	3.53	500	V. 1.55
Pre-tax profits (£m)	852	924	966	385	430	450	
Earnings per share (pance)			- 4	93	10.4		
Dividends per share (pence)	9.2	10.3	11.4	3.0	3.3	400	1975
Sales break-down (£m)	) ,	Centi	nental E	urope 2	00	350	
UK Food 1,228 —		. r	_ 390 UK	t of the 1.4 Financia vices 98	d	300	1
UK Home Furnishings				K Cloth	ing ect	1	\$ 8 8 \$ \$

# Cheese and spreads push up Dairy Crest profits

Tom Stevenson City Editor

Buoyant trading from its cheeses, spreads and fresh dairy products arm belped newly loated Dairy Crest make up for declining sales and profits from its ingredients and doorstep milk delivery operations in the six months to September.

Dairy Crest, which came to

of £16.5m, compared with £15.4m in the comparable halfyear period. Earnings per share rose from 9.3p to 10.5p and there was a maiden interim dividend of 3.26p.

The group figures disguised sharply different performances from the two divisions, however. Consumer foods enjoyed a surge in sales from £178.3m to £218.3m from which profits of

recorded in 1995. Food services suffered from an 8 per cent decline in sales to £163.3m and operating profits were fl.lm lower at £6.4m.

Consumer foods, increasingly Dairy Crest's strategic focus, benefited from a trend towards mature and farmhouse cheddar cheese, which helped expand the UK retail market by 15 per cent to an annual value of £470m. nounced overall pre-tax profits cent increase on the £9.1m Mendip helped the division, better in the second half, taking

25 per cent higher. The operating margin in consumer foods widened from 5.1 per cent to 5.9

In Food Services, the continuing decline of doorstep deliveries of milk was exacerbated by a reversal of last year's strong market prices for commodity ingredients sold to food manufacturers. Conditions in the

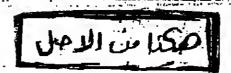
hut even without it profits were the shine off an expected continuation of the improvement on

Despite the problems facing Food Services during the half, cash flow remained strong with an inflow from operations of £20.2m. That had contributed to a reduction in dehts taken on as part of a capital reconstruction ahead of the flotation. Gearing at the half-year stage was 16 per

ly low price of 155p a share, leapt first dealings to more than

190p but have done little since. Even though farmers were given 70 per cent of the shares in Dairy Crest, formerly the processing arm of the Milk Marketing Board, the sharp rise in early dealings convinced many that institutions should have paid more for their stake.





# market report/shares

DATA BANK FISE 100 3921.1 -7.0 FTSE 250 4405.2 -13.2 the Alle Council to the Alle Council to the Alle Council to the Alle Council to the Alle Cou-cessed for the Pather Cou-ter and the Council to the Alle Council to th **FTSE 350** 1958.4 4.0 SEAQ VOLUME 781.9m shares, the state of the s

38,551 bargains Gilts Index SHARE SPOTLIGHT NATIONAL POWER So the generators, for long neglected and in orgent need of a little friendly support, happily responded. National

It was the turn of the gencos to brighten a dull stock market National Power and PowerGen surged ahead, baskmg in an array of analytical ap-proval. And to add to the activity, there was, just for good measure, a hint of

keever action. Morgan Stanley, the US investment house, was the first to descend on the generators. Then last week UBS was wrong-footed when word leaked it was preparing a favourable circular and the investment house felt obliged to rush out its comments ahead of schedule. Goldman Sachs has also joined the applause, producing its own buy note.

Power, the best performing

blue chip, surged 16p to 417.5p; PowerGen rose 13.5p

Both stocks offer strong yield support, an ideal re-quirement in what is looking an increasingly uncertain market. National Power offers a 7.1 per cent return; PowerGen is on 5 DET CENL Adding a little strength to what, in investment terms, are

a couple of dail shares are suggestions one of the oil giants could strike. Shell, or perhaps British ble predators and if a strike is med it would, in view of the political situation, be wise not

to delay too long.
The rest of the market drifted similessly with Footsie ending 7 points lower at 3,921.1 as once again investors held off, ahead of the US presidential election result. Talk of higher interest rates, another ran display by sterling and disap-pointing Marks & Speaces fig-ures added to the restraint. Even a bright Government



### MARKET REPORT DEREK PAIN

stock market reporter of the year

stocks market, with gains of up Whitehall approval and BA's to three quarters of a point, and a strong New York opencontrol of the French Air Libing failed to offer any comfort erte operation were other de-

Vodafone was again at the call of takeover speculators fol-lowing BT's £13km spectacular The growing confusion over the Crest computerised set-tlements system was said to be for MCI, the US group, Its shares, with SBC Warburg saying buy, put on 4.5p to 246p; BT lost 3p to 370p, Cable & Wireless fell 4p to 379.5p follows an uncettling influence. A more cantious equity stance - from overweight to neutral - by Merrill Lynch also contributed to the lack-British Airways was one of the few to ignore the market slipstream, climbing 18.5p to wing results from its Hong

Fac hon bonius wouch

down the drain

Kong Telecom off-shoot.

M&S ended 26p lower at
483p and Whithread's figures, although encouraging its rivals, failed to offer any stimulant to its own shares, off 4p at 736.5p. Allied Domecq, results next 568p as US buyers moved in af-ter the quarterly results. Grow-ing hopes the link with

week, rose 7p to 481.5p and itive meeting with fund man-Scottish & Newcastle 5.5p to agers.

Dimens improved 5p to 549p as NatWest Securities upgraded its profit forecast by £15m to £195m and English China Clays rose 6.5p to 192.5p on ABN Amer House Govett support.

Johnson Matthey, the met-

als group, fell 19p to 573.5p af-ter UBS placed 3.5 million shares at 575p. Large lines in Zeneca, down 16.5p to 1,627.5p, and Lloyds TSB, 3.5p to 383p, were said to hover.
In busy trading, BSkyB firmed to 548.5p with Lehman Brothers making cautious nois-

The US securities house puts a 481p valuation on the shares. News Corporation

completed its preference issue based on BSkyB shares.
British Biotech, at one time
down 15p, ended 5p lower at
202.5p after rumours of a pos-

Alpha Airports edged 1.5p higher to 105.5p as the long-suspected sale of Granada's 25 per cent interest duly occurred with Harrods chief Mohamed Al Faved paying 125p a share for the stake. He has no plans so bid for at least six months. There are suggestions BAA, the airports group, could join Mr Al Faved in developing dutyfree operations through Alpha. Fakway, a printing group, fell 28.5p to 81.5p on a profit warning and a trading update

failed to inspire First Leisure Corporation, which was off 9p to 360.5p. The resumption of hostilities

over Lloyds Chemists left the where 5.5p lower at 51 lp.

Michael Page, the recruitment group, held at 422.5p with

Merrill Lynch looking for an
£11m profit increase to £28.7m this year. The investment

☐ Shares of Burn Stewart, the Scotch whisky group. bump along around their low at 69.5p. They were floated at 140p five years ago. There is vague talk of takeover action, although the depressed state of the spirits market could deter predators. Britannic Assurance and Dutch group Erven Lucas Bols each have around 10 per cent.

☐ Photobition, supplying services for exhibitions, should lift profits £1.4m to £4.3m this year and hlt £5.8m next, believes stockbroker Teather & Greenwood, The hares are 3,39.5p.

Investors in computer group Navier wust have dreamt of riches. The shares surged 966 per cent to 117.5p. according to the market screen. "A technical mistake," house sees £33.4m next year. The price was stable at 11p.

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Prices are in storing except where stated. The yield is lard year's dividend, prosed up to 30 per cent, as a percentage of the share price. The price saltungs (PTE) value are share.

RUGBY UNION: England have a new captain who leads by example. Chris Hewett reports

# Softy who conceals a hard centre

thoroughly disrespectful reference to the fact that Phil de Glanville is far too pretty, and gets injured far too often. for his own good. Things are about to change, though, for it will take a brave player, certainly one with limited internacional ambitions, to wield that nick-

Not that England's new rug-hy captain is short of a sense of humour, far from it. But engagingly approachable and pop-ular as he may be, De Glanville is no one's idea of a soft touch. Indeed, Jack Rowell has probably chosen the toughest character of the lot to lead his charges through the minefield of the immediate post-Will Car-

Listen to John Hall, De Glanville's forerunner as Bath captain and now his team manager. "People ask if we still have the hard edge in our side, the old mean streak. I tell them to watch Phil. He does a fantastic job in terms of motivation and leadership and I speak as someone who has played under some of the most strong-minded peo-

But De Glanville has never needed others to fight his corner for him. Unlike Carling, who's now notorious "old farts" jibe at members of the Rugby Football Union was less remarkable in terms of content than in the fact that it was voiced by so guarded a character, the new man has pungent views on all things rugby and is quite pre-

pared to express them. One of the players' represen-tatives during the original falling-out between the leading clubs and the Rugby Football Union last spring, he has been a trenchant critic of the governing body's shambolic efforts to ease

the Bath dressing-room, a the transition to professionalism. He also stands up to be counted on the issue of violence; when half a dozen All Black boots ripped into his face during a brutal New Zealand tour match with the South-West Di-vision at Redruth in 1993, he was not frightened to point the finger. Neither was he frightened to renew acquaintances with the self-same pack of forwards less than a month later.

Renowned as a brilliant defensive centre, both as an individual tackler and a back-line organiser. De Glanville arrived at Bath after winning an Oxford Blue in 1990. There were early injury setbacks - his nose still points at an angle dictated by the knee of club-mate Andy Robinson, with whom he collided during a divisional match in London - but there was no serious doubt that he would live up to his England Students and England Under-21 pedigree. His full international debut

came in 1992, when he replaced the injured Carling during the later stages of the 33-16 victory over South Africa at Twickenham. When his Bath midfield partner, Jeremy Guscott, was forced to sit out the whole of the 1993-94 campaign because of chronic groin trouble, he was given an extended run in the England team and came close to breaking up the Carling-Guscott axis once and for all during the World Cup last year.

Ironically, it was on the day that Carling was axed, temporarily as in turned out, from the national captaincy for his RFU outburst - Pilkington Cup final day, 1995 - that De Gianville un-derlined his obvious leadership credentials. Hall, his club skipper, was forced out through injury at the last minute and after Bath had stampeded all over Wasps at Twickenham, the



Phil de Glanville enjoys the first flash of the limelight at Twickenham yesterday

stand-in leader sought out his bitterly disappointed colleague and fairly manhandled him up the steps to receive the trophy. It was the first and only time that any-

one forced Hall to do anything.

Although De Gianville had been a clear candidate for the England captaincy from the mo-

Monday that Rowell phoned to offer him the job. The coach had delayed his announcement, not just because of the continuing strife on the political front but because he was worried that his

ment Carling quit last March, it knee trouble in time to face Italy was not until mid-afternoon on 23 November. When De Glanville came through unscathed for Bath against, of all people, the Italian side Treviso on Saturday, there was no longer

any need to prolong the suspense.
"Before making my decision. choice would not recover from I spoke to the multi-cap playPhotograph: David Ashdown

ers who were not candidates for the captaincy and they all leaned towards Phil," Rowell said yesterday. One thing is for sure; when those players need him to, their new captain will lean over backwards to protect their interests both on and off Wales snubbed by Quinnell

Scott Quinnell yesterday turned a £4,000 match fee and £4,000 his back on Wales by breaking off financial talks between his

agent, Mike Burton, and the Welsh Rugby Union. Quinnell has been in dispute with the Welsh Rugby Union over payment since he returned to union from Wigan rugby league club last summer.

At one stage, the 23-year-old Richmond back row forward went on international strike in protest at what he termed unfair treatment, and was not considered for Wales' earlyseason internationals against France and Italy.
"I am surprised and disap-

pointed that the WRU have changed the basis of their offer to me for the third time," said Quinnell, who won nine caps in 1993 and 1994. "I had accepted their latest

offer, even though it was still some way short of the financial package being offered to players currently playing for Welsh

clubs.
"I was prepared to make that sacrifice to wear the red jersey again, but this latest turnabout by the WRU is most

Burton, the former England and Lions prop, has been in detailed negotiation with the WRU director of rugby, Terry Cobner, for six months, and it is understood Quinnell was offered a £20,000 lump sum, plus

win bonus.

Contracted WRU players currently carn a basic £30,000, plus various assorted appearance fees and win bonuses.

Burton said: "I am almost as: disappointed as Scott at the breakdown in these talks. While no animosity exists between . Scott and the WRU, we are resigned to the fact that Scott will not play international rugby

"I have talked to Fran Cotton, manager of the Lions for next summer's tour to South Africa, and he is quite prepared to assess Scott on his club form when considering his party to take on the Springboks."

Quinnell, who was tipped to return when the Wales coach. Kevin Bowring, announces his team for next month's Test against Australia, said he felt sympathy for other English-based Weish players like Harlequins' Gareth Llewellyn andthe Bath flanker Richard Web-

"I feel sorry for the other lads playing their club rugby in Eng-iand, because they are being asked to accept so much less than Wales-based players who will be wearing the same jersey on match day," he claimed. "It is very unfair, but more-

distressing is the unprofessional way that negotiations have been conducted by the WRU."

### **Dwyer criticises England**

Leicester have selected Will Greenwood and Richard Cockerill for tonight's Anglo-Welsh Cup match at Neath, despite an England squad session being staged just hours earlier.

Bob Dwyer, the Tigers coach, has openly criticised England's international match preparations, claiming his players need the latest Bisham Abbey work-

out "like a hole in the head". When you are playing two tough games a week, this sort of thing does not make life any easier," he said. "If the England administration thinks we are teaching the players wrong techniques, then they are welcome to talk to us about it.

'My view is that we are

preparing the current Leicester side well, and there is no need for this session. When I was Australian coach, I hardly ever saw my players until three days

before a Test." Leicester, unbeaten after two Anglo-Welsh matches, retain six of the side who finished last Saturday's European Cup victory: over Llanelli.

Cardiff will not switch their Heineken European Cup quar-ter-final against Bath on 16' November from their own Arms Park ground to the neigh-bouring National Ground. The club ground can hold 12,000 and it is anticipated that nearly 30,000 spectators could have been attracted to the tie.



LATEST RESULTS AND TOP 50 TEAMS

# LEAGUE TABLE

POS.	NAME	TEAM	POINT
1	Mr Chris Scott	Bruce Lee F C	365
2	Mr S A Scott	Foreign Buckbone	
3	Mr John Coxs	Southfill F C	359
4 .	Mr C Barry	Champion Aces I	356
4	Mrs A Vickers	Football Magic	356
6	Mr Aaron Jones	Catteron 2	365
6	Mr Paul Glazzard	Chocolate TeaPot	355
8.	Mr Keith Horry	Organic Mamme FA	
9	Mr G Jones	Avanorlast United	353
10 "	Mr Steve Basnett	Bezzy's Defence	
10	Mr R Northcroft	I Know Your Wife	352
12	Mr S King	Crubbe Aleks	
13 14	Mr Husam Sathry Mr S Lawrence	I'm off to France Un	
14		Total Control	
14	Mr Steven Hart Mr C Britton	Kees Cowboys	349
17	Mr John Perkins		
18	Mr J Uppitts	Hamoaze Racing F C	348
18	Mr Adam Hoee		
18		Blaggy Hogg	347
21	Dr Tom Boyle	Last Gasp Guilles	346
21	Mr Mark Shelvey	Torona Roles	
21	Mr P Frankental	Arlensiu	346
21	Mr Michael Dews		
21	Mr Richard Watson	Better Without Ball	
21	Mr D [ Robinson	Bulk for Empland	
21	Mr Chris Thomas	Scuntharpe Exiles	346
8	Mr lan Boyle		
28	Mr D R Baker	Baker Boys 5	345
28	Ms C M Down	The Deale Brief very	100
28	Mr David Edmondson	Edmo United	345
12	Mr Stuart Jones		
32 .	Ms Jill Walton	The Alternatives	344
4	Mr Jonethan McCrelle	Water And	
34	Mr Graham Longsdane	Sandlings Strollers	343
34	Mr Paul Diving	Charles Plans 1 Track	and the same of the same of
37	Mr D J Hornby	Good Evans	342
37		Glark United	
37	Mr Andrew Boyjec	Great Home Deed	342
37		- loss fore	
37	Mr Paddy Falls	Curionan Crackers	342
43	No R Jones	44.20	
43	Mr M Crosland	Osney C Lyons	341
13	Mr lan Newcasta	SCW	
3	Mr D Welbourne	Defensive Posture	341
Ž.:	Mr S Walls	The Contract of the Contract o	
<b>47</b>	Mr David Ashton	TGLodger	340
<b>4</b>	Mr David Robbisco		

The Solid Drips Kings

Mr David Highmash

THE INDEPENDENT

12 (Wk 12) column shows all points scored in the very Wednesday and again on Sunday. matches played between Monday 28 October - Ferms and conditions as previously published and Sunday 3 November inclusive. The Overall (Ov available upon request. column shows the total amount of points scored in all matches played from Saturday 17 August - Sunday 3 November.

We are also publishing our Top 50 League table (see left). It lists the overall top scoring Independent Fantasy Football managers and their teams for matches played between Saturday 17 August - Sunday 27 October.

Results will be published every Wednesday in The

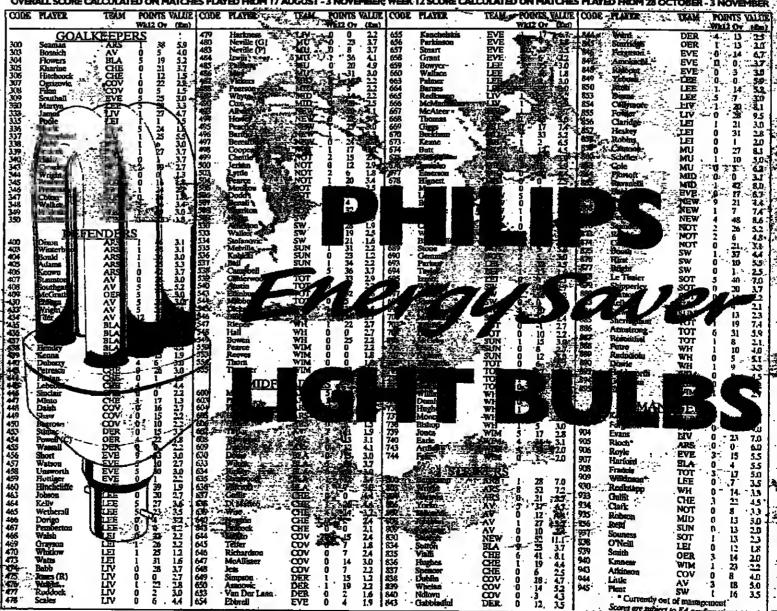
oday we publish the latest result and coverage and the course of the cou

4 points for a goal ■ 4 points for a goalkeeperidefender clean sheet = 3 points for a successful assist 
I point when a player is selected and plays I point for a winning goal 3 points for a manager win, I point for a draw Lose I point for a yellow card - Lose 3 points for a red card

that time. Win the ultimate prize - a trip to the 1998 World Cup in France. The winner, plus companion, will see all the action of a quarter-final and a semi-final of their choice, plus the final In addition, the highest scoring team each month will win a pair of tickets to one of England's World Cup qualifying games at Wembley.

**MONTH 2 PRIZEWINNER** 

Congratulations to our second month's winner Tony Hanna, from Isleworth, Middlesex who has scored 152 points with his team Hanna's Heroes. He has won a pair of tickets to see England v Italy on 12 February 1997. The second month's prize is for match-



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Photograph: Steve Holland/AP

can set agent provided the ground does not become finding. Last Laugh 4 the obvious all remove in recept of 23th actioush she would be getting another \$1th in a handcap. Ivin Beste, 5 th, best Desgonnan is short-need at Dester test month in a nucley, towice handcap but flooped bening Pegasias Bay at Ludion subsequents. Peth Of Jeabs has followed evid on set indigen Jackey judged on herology latings, but he was not health for behind Gloseng Pegn at Warrack on Security having ston have and been second on hus previously in local matter than the provisions in local matter than the period of the period

3.05 SPORTING LIFE TROPHY (HANDICAP CHASE) (CLASS D) £5,100 added 3m Penalty Value £3,501

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Gold seems past his best and Paper Star's wins have all been at Plumpton. Selection: MASTER ORCHESTRA.

3.35 ACE CUP (NOVICE CHASE) (CLASS D) £5,100 added 2m 4f 110yds Penalty Value £3,550

9 1001/23 SMEEHMACK (MEA) (Lie) (About Annual Francis — 9 declared — 8ETTIME: 7-4 Fine Thyse, 4-1 Mr Jervin, 5-1 Sumset And Vine, 6-1 Mysdc Isle, 7-1 Greenback, 10-1 Mysdc Isle, 7-1 Greenback, 10-1 Mysdc See Fine 6 11 3 E Marphy 10-11 (7 Case) 5 mm FORM GUIDE

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052/300. WINDE WONDER (209) 7/10 Potrogen M Brackwook 6 11.0 ...
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added 3m 110yds Penalty Value £3,436

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FORM GUIDE

FORM FINE

FIRE THYNE, lightly raced and useful over hardles, is official to oppose after running smart

Call Equiname, an impressive winner at Chepchow previously, to a length and a haif on his
chaing debut at Wordealar recently, he pod result from a long absence to win over rundies at Stational in September and is clearly in good heart. Grewinhake was no match fur

Land After and America (stationarie to the selection) here lest time after running Calibate
chose on his return from a lengtly observed, also at this course. Nordealar was let down by
the symptom of that department could see him pose a threat to fine Thyne. Mystic Isle,
where of a madden bardle at Vindos in Sansays, is likely to need a linger trip and lacks a
recent run. Susset And Vine, a useful handscap hunder, has not been out since being
pulled up at Ascot in April 1394.

Selection: FINE THYNE.

4.05 FIESTA MAGAZINE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS C) £5,000 

BETUNE: 7-2 Standard, 4-1 Ocean Heavit, 9-2 Objection, 5-1 Herding, 8-1 Gives A Call, 7-2 Jackin, 19-1 Oark Hossey, Wetnestaudies, 12-3 Feddidgs, 1995: Wee West, 6-20 S 2 and 2D 1 J Gford; 10 mr.

1996: Wer Wind 6 20 8 P mod 10 1 J G ford 10 ms.

HARDENG returns to hunding on a fair mad, ~ 3th lower than when stateming Jimmy's Cross termer ned arrest 12 Jengans at Newtony in March and a pound lower than when placed behind Landed Gentry at Assot and Erchale here in big Leids. He failed to atm in four starts after Newtony, but there was defined promise in his recent Flor in an Arcon and this shorp course such him well. Shakman is unbearing firm live starts over further, and continued his watering run when making all at odds on in a chainty race of Emitte sat Jime, but to face has startest task yet over timber. Obsein Hawki, a small pureful hinter had season, who may at Ascot and Lecenter is time for the short lest even with a big weight on this reconnection Objection and south of Scholars, while Wortestanehies, succeptual times times amount of the hundles this season, has been dropped 35 for his Wortesta defeate behind force it in the hundles the season and is birth to benefit from this roturn, but Fieldhildes seemed to have his horizontal Field Park I have been described the Newton's lost time Group as the face of Pieldhildes seemed to have his horizontal Fieldhildes seemed to have

RACING RESULTS

1. 18 mm. 1. 2. © Durkop, Newmanieri, Toise £4.80; £1.80, £1.60, £3.10. DF: £13.40, DSF: £16.94, Tino: £25.00. NR: Noire.
2.95; 1. RENEZO JA Clark (14-1; 2. Timosability 10-1; 3. Eurichael 7-4 fev. 10 mm. nh. hd. (6 Hannoor, Pulborough, Totar £11.00; £2.70, £2.50, £1.20. DF: £49.90, CSF: £131.33, Trocast: £334.83, Tino. (20.70, After a servents' indusy, Burned, who was first post the post, was dequatrified and placed fourth.

Derren Beadman salutes the heavens as Saintly takes yesterday's Melbourne Cup

3.05 Master Orchestra

4.05 JADIDH (nap)

ELEADING TRAINERS WITH REFINERS: II Nicholson — 15 winners from 56 reners gives a surveys rang of 26.5% and a loss to a \$1 level stake of \$1.26; N Henderson — 12 winners, 69 runners, 17.4%, -50.40, K Balley — 11 winners, 69 runners, 22.4%, -50.18; M Figs — 11 winners, 53 runners, 20.6%, +\$14.38.

ELEADING JOCERTS'S J Outomie — 23 winners, 106 rides, 21.7%, +\$11.06; R Dunwoody — 20 winners, 104 rides, 19.2%, -531.89; A Magnire — 15 winners, 74 rides, 20.3%, -55.70; M A Fingerald — 15 winners, 82 rates, 18.3%, +\$1.41.

BLINGERED FIRST TRICE: None.

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN BATS: None.

LONG-DETAINER ENTINERS: Certain Augie (3.56) & Greenback (3.36) have been sent 165 miles by P Hobbs from Bilbrook, Somerset; Indian Jockwy (2.36) & Shahruni (4.06) sent 153 miles by M Pipe from Nicholssbayne, Devon.

1.35 USM BOWL (NOVICE HURDLE) (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m 5f Penalty Value £2,360

This does not look periodicity competitive and SPRING DOUBLE, representing higher twiston-Dovies, who sent out Wisley Worder to Mit has a year ago, should prove good enough to make a successful debut over hunders. The five-year-old opened his account in a bumper to lituraters in May with a game three-quarter-length win from Loch No Mele and went on the bird to Priendship under a perelty. Good gound seems to surf. Melecation, unner-up in a Notongham bumper in February, ran well over hunders in big fields to Wincamon and Cheltenham and will be surfed by this trip, but the run is likely to be needed. Boarlands Ring reached the frame at four starm lest season, winding up with a short-head detect by Barford Sovereign at Hundington, but he does not look easy to win with. Fast Fenueral Fred, only modest on the Fast, should be surfed by the trip and can be considered, along with Nicky Henderson's newcomer Mountain. Path and Quarti, who reached the frame on his debut have less November when dwind to Edwinor Profiles.

Selection: SPRING DOUBLE,

205 JOHNSONS INTERNATIONAL NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) £5,100 added 3m Penalty Value £3,518

2.35 MIRROR SELECT CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS CLAMING HUR-DLE (CLASS F) £3,000 added 2m Penalty Value £2,234

placed fourth,
3.05: 1. ASNERN (A Clark 16-1; 2. Shaff-ishayae 11-2; 3. Rex. Mundi 8-1; 4. Carden flang 20-1: 17 ram. 9-2 for Ferris Governor. Ind., 40 Haydra Jones. Portypaddh. Totas 25:10; £4.10, £2.00, £1.80, £4.40. DF £79:10. CSF: £103.87. Treast. £727.80. Tre. £4.29.10 (pool of £1.37.02 to Newton Abbot 2-55. Vertical Processing States of the Control of £1.37.02 to Newton Abbot 2-55. Vertical Processing States of the Control of £1.37.02 to Newton Abbot 2-55. Vertical Processing States of the Control of £1.37.02 to Newton Abbot 2-55. Vertical Processing States of the Control of £1.37.02 to Newton Abbot 2-55. Vertical Processing States of the Control of £1.37.02 to Newton Abbot 2.25 today). 3.36: 1. CRETAN CRET (T C McLoughan

4.08: 1. PALACEDATE JACK U Carroll 8-1; 2. Friandly Breve 10-1; 2. Splicing 3-1 by. 8 ma. nl. ½. C Dayer, Newtodeth Toles £9,40; £3.00, £2.50, £2.10, DF: £37.60, DF: £76.43. Jackpots not won (pool of £26,175.27 car-ned forward to Newton Abbot suday). Placepet £247.00, Quedipets £77.40. Place 6: £334.61. Place St £160.84.

WARWICK 1.26: 1. CHICKAVICKA (G Brades) 7-

2.56: 2. DESERT FORCE (C Bridey) 11-4 far; 2. Clea Funir 9-2: 3. Hullo Mary Doll 9-2 7 ran. 6, 3; A Streeter. Fota: £3.90, £2.00, £3.10. Dual Forcest: £12 00. CSF: £16.09. 3.25: 1, DRUMSTICK (COTWO): 5-4. 2 rate, 4-7 fav. Mar. Mood (pulled ub). (K Bai-tey), Totale £1.50, Non Rumer, Mine's At Ace



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DAVID LLEWELLYN Oxford University Western Samoa

Par chather for Oxford University will not need too many bruising encounters like this one at Iffley Road yesterday. The Dark Blues will wake up black and blue after an entertaining match against a ferocious side boasting some

half a dozen internationals. The students were rather unlucky to get Western Samoa on the rebound from a hammering at the hands of Saracens on Saturday. With only one more match, against Munster on Saturday, before they take on Ireland the tourists adopted a

tough approach to this match. They still found Oxford a handful. The Oxford scrum learned valuable lessons and improved throughout and the lineouts were never a procession of possession for the tourists. Outside-half James Averis, three mouths into his return following 18 months out with cruciate ligament damage to a knee, put in a classy and manure performance. His kicking style, measured, easy and most important of all, accurate, betrayed some concentrated session work with the kicking guru, Dave Alred, and Rob Andrew during his rehabilitation. Averis helped himself to 17

points, including a well-taken try in the first half, and the second of his three conversions nosed Oxford ahead for seven minutes near the start of the second half. But the bodily hardness and the very size of the tourists and their fearsome tackling told as they ran in eight tries, six of them after the interval as the Dark Blues began to feel the pace.

Oxford can take heart from the way they tackled. They have probably never had to make quite so many in a game, and will never have been hit quite so hard. One tackle by a Samoan on full-back Richie Maber folded him in two. Remarkably he recovered his wind and finished the game like his

colleagues, in spirited fashion. Both sides showed a willing-ness to run the ball, even from kickable penalties. Although a bit of niggle crept in at the end. the referee, Chris Reeks, quick-ly doused the sparks, showing Afa Leu'u a yellow card towards the end.

J Fincegen (Jeaus, 30) for Esservature; wytestepn sammer V Penur, A Scholo, G Leaupepe, M Fatialofa, FToelat, FTancat, V Violate, B Raichy, T Leota, A Lauru, M Brachstatte (capt), t Toelat, S K Tolaston, S Smith, Neplacomente: 1 Fasument for Smith, 48; P Leowesu for Reichy, 61; P Fit for Patu, 61; T Panchus for Leoupepe, 67.

RICHARD TAYLOR

jured in Verona's last Italian

Verona in their opening group game without the injured England internationals Karl Brown and 6ft 10in Neville Austin, Victory tonight and in their two other home games, against Thilisi of Georgia and Yugoslavia's Podgorica, will assure a top-four finish and ease the pressure for away games in Tunkey and Hungary.

nig I	NDE	PENI	ENT
108	91	26	1 +
KEMPTO		HARIES	981
HAYDO	CK	6*) 3*)	982 983

# Europeans trail behind in Saintly's path

2.35 Indian Jockey

Racing

RICHARD EDMONDSON

Cup series has been telling Buropean runners that they are rather like fish flapping on the river bank when they are hauled out of their own environment. and the Melbourne Cup is beginning to take on the same appeal. Vintage Crop set the float twitching when he was successful for Ireland three years ago, but in Australia yesterday the three travellers from the northern hemisphere showed what a huge achievement Vintage Crop's win was when fin-ishing down the field behind Saintly, who had not been sent across the time zones. Grey Shot. was seventh, the favourite Oscar Schindler 15th, while Court

Of Honour beat just two of the 22 runners home It was another day when the equine skills of Michael Kinane, Oscar Schindler's jockey, were brought into onestion. Kinane, who partnered Vintage Crop to victory in 1993, was the recipient of the sort of abuse you would not give an extant dog when defeated on the same horse the following year, and his judgement was again under

scrutiny in Victoria last night. The jockey had persuaded Oliver Lehane, Oscar Schindler's owner, to tackle this assignment in preference to the Breeders' Cup Turf at Woodbine, in which a horse he had finished alongside in the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe, Pilsudski,

Just after the field swung into the Flemington straight, however, Kinane knew he would

RUNKERED FIRST TIME: None.

1.15 Falcon's Flame 1.45 Trade Wind 2.15 State-

PRACTICES SAME (USA) (21) Ale J Remoter 11 G. A Section (S. AME (USA) (21) Ale J Remoter 11 G. A Section (S. AME (USA) (21) Ale J Remoter 11 G. A Section (S. AMERICAN) (S

63 STOLENMANCH (12) A Fortes 11 0.

SON OF ANSWER (21) Mrs A Safterik 110 ....

DIEY & Barnest 11 0.

15 SZOLEMANICH (12) A Forber 11 0. T Buy
15 WROTHGERLIMMANICY | Bery 11 0. M Molecory
16 PROVETICE FORM (27) has N Deficit 10 9 Mir L Jufford
17 RADBONE WIGHTY P Bears 10 9 Mary Lyene
18 SOLESE Mes M Readey 20 9 Phon
18 Source Statemer - Petros 7-2 Always Mappy, 13-2 Otobe Rosmar, 31 Snow Durcken, 9-1 Source, 10-1 Mellemanica, Hispai Them, 14-1 SingSource Durcken, 9-1 Source, 10-1 Mellemanica, Hispai Them, 14-1 SingSource Durcken, 9-1 Town, Statemanica, 15-1 others

1.45 PRESTON AMATEUR RIDERS HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,750 2m 4f

- 4 countries - 4 countries weight: Zip Your Lip Set Stb. : 4-6 Palcounto, 3-1 Corrandor, Trado What, 12-1 Zip Your Lip

3.45 Imperial Vintage 4.15 Marello

be addressing a post-mortem. ing," he said. "But it's just a "You have so take a stand and shame he doesn't like fast make a decision," he said. "We felt, not just me but the trainer 600, that he was the right horse. At his best you would have ex-pected him to best them. "I saked him for an effort

coming out of the home turn but it was short fixed. This was a dis-appointment and I have no crcoses. Maybe the long year has taken its toll on him as he has ecnymining since April." Oscar Schmidler's gloomy

display confidence have been pre-dicted in the parade ring as he strode round in front of the near 100,000 congregation with per-

RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Misster Orchestra (Kempton 3.05) NB: Karlcleigh Man (Newton Abbot 1.25)

suading imperioneness. The as of Peter Chapple-Hyam's Court Of Honour were ess easy to trump up as he performed like a tap dancer, but Grey Shot, lan Belding's runner,

looked composed.

Pat Eddery may have been mindful that foreign juckey error is not favourably reported in the Antipodes when he sent Grey Shot into a leading postiion from which there could be little criticism. He at least takes home the distinction of having been in front for longer than any

Cup are becoming increasingly risible with a capital R. other, a post wrested from him only in the home straight. While Eddery enjoyed the ex-1. SAPKITY (I) Beadman) 8-1; 2. Count. Chives 33-1; 3. Skybeen 50-1, 22 mm. 4-1 fev Oscar Schinder (15th), 21/4, nk. (Bained by J 8 Cumming), Alac: Bray Shot (7th), Count Of Honour (20th), Totas: 56,80; £2,40, £10,00, £19,60, SF; £125,70, DF; £58,20, Non Runners Crystof Germ & Mahamer Bray perience as a whole, he cannot lave gloried too much in the sight of those better suited to

the ground sweeping past him. "I really enjoyed it, very excit-

ground. The speed horses came

and got him for a turn of foot."

8-1 shot who gave Bart Cummings his 10th win in the race,

a tribute to his training abilities

ressed with the way he Saint-

He came there cruising he let

Just how talented Saintly is

may be revealed when he tack-

les the Japan Cup this month.

British horses will again get their chance to put a missile in his

structure in Tokyo. Until then,

68-year-old Cummings can bask in this achievement and polish

the trophy that was struck to cel-

chrate his milestone. This is

very special and I savour it very much," be said.

ning rider, was capturing the race for the second time and the

name of his mount was rather

ironic for a man who was run

out of Hong Kong for alleged

irregularities and who praised heavenly powers for this success.

He also paid tribute to the

man who is well ahead of him

in terms of Cup collections. Bart Cummings is an absolute

genius with a capital G," he said. That may be so, but Europe's

performances in the Melbourne

Darren Beadman, the win-

him go and he took off, He's ob-

viously a high-class horse."

quickened," Eddery said.

and longevity. "I was very im-

The speediest was Saintly, an

331455 9405 MINISTRE, (1989, (1) R Champton 11 11 0 \_A Dobbin R 190012-1 EMPRENN MAGIC (189 (1) 6 Barnett 8 10 0 \_\_\_\_\_R Present -4 doctored -2.45 WARRINGTON NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) £3,750 added 2m

ly Home 2.45 Three Wild Days 3.15 Chai-Yo GOING: Good (Good to Firm in piaces).

Left-hand course with drop fences and run-in of two furbusys.

Course is ut junction of ASSO and Mil. Newson station 2m. All MISSOON? Course Stand \$1.4; Takinasalis \$28, Newson Station 2m. All CAPs half-price in Takinasiis \$4.50 (OAPs half-price in Takinasiis \$4.50 (O 453-13 MORDIC BREEZE (10) (D) (BP) M Pot 411 4\_M W NORDIC BREZZE (EU) (D) (RF) M PDR 4 11 4\_1 Williamson ADMINISE EIST M DONS 4 30 12\_ R Supple GALEN (SAC) Me M Reselvy 5 10 32\_ Pleven GRANDHURE (DER) (SAY) J (O'Ned 4 10 12 PLANGHRAN (SA) HERBERTH OF FAME (1990) D Burchol 5 30 12 \_ D J Burchol INGERIOANI (2001) J Rossald 4 20 12\_ D J Burchol INGERIOANI (2001) J Rossald 4 20 12\_ D J Burchol INGERIOANI (2001) J Rossald 4 20 12\_ D J Burchol INGERIOANI (2001) J Rossald 4 20 12\_ D J Burchol INGERIOANI (2001) J ROSSALD (2001) J ROSSA MAINABER IN THE LAST SEVEN DATE: Stately Home (2.16) WON AS Westerly on Standay. LONG-DISTANCE KUNNERS: No Paix No Cale (2.16) has been sen 242 miles by J Gifford from Finden, W Suiver. O SECULA CLES J 107447 5 10 12. 1 15 BERCHTELD NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D)

£3,750 added 370 2m

2 ADMS HERY (80 (RF) M Fig. 11 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ C Heads

RYPH AGENT BRITISH 11 0 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ D Heads

BALLYSSEMBE N Book 11 0 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ D Heads

3.15 RADIO CITY HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £3,750 added 2m

0020221- THERESAY MISTIF (202) J Professol 5 11 7. ..... 1. Wyer 004345- COOL LUNE (213) CD F Marsky 7 11 6. ..... 1 Williamon 241021- CHU-YO (202) J CH 6 11 3 ...... 1 bytes 621065- SARIT CHE, (1989) E Mis (20) F Jordan 0 11 3 ...... 6 Wysne - 8 doctored lay Hight, 6-1 Cool Lake, 22-1 Saint Cla 3.45 GLENGOYNE NOVICE CHASE (SERIES QUALIFIER) (CLASS D) £5,500 added 3m

CRALL SEPT (CLASS D) 55,500 anobox 3m;
1 R3112 Megran, Weblack (2) Mer Willers 311 32.4 Willerson
2 00764 (24597 09280 (540) Meximus 311 22.4 Willerson
3, 35,634-3 Menthiodic 29 Mer S Smith 7 11.2 Methiodic (7)
8 Willer WORDER (198) N Testion-Design 811 2... Methiodic (7)
5 111503- Willer WORDER (198) N Testion-Design 811 2... C Mande
5 declared

BETTINGS 5-4 Willey Worder, 7-4 Impedial Visingle, 9-1 Monymous, 7-1
Royal Parks, 25-1 Charry Orchid

4.15 WEATHERBYS STARS OF TOMORROW MARES NH FLAT RACE (H) £1,550 2m 

1.25 Kendal Cavaller 1.55 Mutawali 2.25 Punters Overhead 2.55 Mr Cotton Socks 3.25 Frogmarch 3.55 Bond Jnr 4.25 Ivory Charmer

GOING: Soit (Heavy in a few places).

E. Left-hand, sharp, course with shart run-in.

Course is north of town on A280. Newton Abbot station I m.

ADMINISTRONT Taucranils 58.50; Course \$4, Accompanied under16s free. CAR PARK: On rails \$1.50, remainder free.

BILINEERED FIRST TIME: Colour Schame (visored) (1.55). WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATS: Glowing Path (1.55) won at Warwick on Sanntay.

LONG-DESTANCE EUNNERS: Personat Cottage (1.25) has been sent 169 miles by Miss E Whitehouse from Church Stretton, Salop.

1.25 ANFIELD NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E)
23,000 added 3m 3f
1.16530 BARRISHIL BUCK (226) P Novice 7 10 10 ... A P Notey
2.50004 CASTLEDOMER (22) R Foot 5 10 10 ... I Foot
3.0520-23 COMPER COL. (7) WG M Turns 6 20 10 ... I Foot (7)
4.131637 DEGREES PROFILES (578) N Transcr-Durine 6 10 10 ... 

En 9st St. Afte & Choice 9st. SETTME: 5-2 Michaell, 15-4 Gloring Path, 4-1 Verific Cross, 8-1 Aller's METON, 10-1 Touch Street, 12-1 Sovereign Niche, Al Hani, 20-1 others

2.55 BARCLAYS BANK 'NH' NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m 6f

3.25 WELLIAM HELL TRIAL HANDICAP HURDLE 

-7 declared African weigh: 10st. The handlop weight World Express Set 120.
BETTING: 11-4 Prognanth, 3-1 Cadoughil, 5-1 Mouse Wird, 8-1 Holdeless, Lackendura, 8-1 Morstock, 10-1 World Express.

3.55 STAMFORD BRIDGE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £4,200 added 3m 2f 110yds - 7 dectared -BETUNO: 5-2 Bond Jor, 3-1 Chief Rager, 7-2 Tapageur, 7-1 Sa 6-1 Rocky Park, 16-1 Scotosi, Streeple Just

4.25 HIGHBURY STANDARD OPEN NH FLAT RACE (CLASS H) £1,550 added 2m 1f THE RACE (CLASS H) £1,550 added 2m 1f

13 LETAMATE SMOOTHE (47) (BF) M Pop 4 12 M ... & Brander (9)

O ARCING GRAVITER (123) 8 R Holman 4 11 4 ... D Salver (9)

S CAPTUR PELLS (PC) (SS) A Darto 5 11 4 ... D Salver (9)

DEFENDATERSAM R FINDS 5 11 4 ... Mr A Holds (7)

FROMETS LIGHT View N Finger 4 11 4 ... Light A Holds (7)

REASTER FROM STATE (FINDS 25 11 4 ... Mr A Holds (7)

RAMINE SMOOTH (FINDS 26 8) De Hosto 5 11 4 ... Defence (7)

MINOR COLERIE (200) P Holms 5 11 4 ... A P Holosy

LIGHT (MILL (EQ) A Holms 5 11 4 ... A P Holosy

LIGHT (MILL (EQ) A Holms 5 11 4 ... Mr G Saverhin (7)

MINOR OF SELECTION (1) A ... Mr G Saverhin (7)

MINOR OF SELECTION (1) A ... A P MINOR (1)

MINOR OF SELECTION (1) A ... A P MINOR (1)

S MINOR (1) SELECTION (1) A ... A P MINOR (1)

TOWN TOWN N THAT DOWN 4 11 4 ... A P MINOR (1)

TOWN TOWN N THAT DOWN 4 11 4 ... A P MINOR (1)

SETTING 5-2 UNIVERSE SMOOTH A ... A Fixed to Head, 8-1 Produce 1 and 
1.15: 1. IT'S A GEM (I. Aspell) 50-1; 2. 1.15; 1. IT'S A GEM (I. ASPEL) 50-1; 2. Devon Peassant 9-1; 3. Laties Nariba 2-1 iss. 15 issn. 15; 4. U. Gifford, Findoni. Total £108.00; £15.50, £2.20, £1.40. Dual Forecast £499.70. Computer Straight Forecast £499.70. Computer Straight Forecast £410.19. Troc £256.60 (pool of £253.02 to Newton About 2.25 today). Non Rumord Dames Cavalies.

1.40: 1. STONE ISLAND (R DIFMOCO) 11-0. Straight for The Cavalies.

Dames Caccient,

1.48:1. STUNE ISLAND (R Duracco): 11-2. Bryanskon Square 9-1: 3. Flank in The Pan 10-1. 9 rea. 6-4 for Home Coolon' (401).

1. 10. Hobbe, Manhesad. Tothe: 57.70: 52.10. 53.50. 51.50. DF: 59.40. CSF: 546.94. Trac: 546.50.

2.15: 1. ABSALOM'S LADY (D Brogonier): 8-1; 2. Coortine 13-8 fay; 3. Pimberley Phace 66-1. 9 mar. 27. 11/4. (Abs. Gay Keheway, Whetnombel. Tothe: £6.60; £2.10. £1.10. DF: £5.50. ESF: £0.55.

2.45: 1. ALLOW (M A Fingerid): 9-2; 2. MRRion Darroer 10-1; 3. Cracking Prespect 20-1: 13 mar. 7-2 in Julie Warm (401). 7, 6. (B Llewellyn, Bargood. Tothe: £5.60: £1.70. CSF: £1.50. DF: £2.70. CSF: £4.58. Trices: £759.80. Trac: £202.90 Bool of £60.03 to Newton Absot 2.25 today.

3.15: 1. FOOLS: £ERRAND (A P MCCO). 5-1: 2. Class Of Misstylane 7-2; 3. Dom's Samoural 11-1. Trac. 9-4 for Caos Respect (401). 7, 24: 65 Releang, Pyfield, Tothe: £4.50; £1.70. £2.40. DF: £5.40. CSF: £21.19.

3.45: 1. SAL, BYTHE SIMES (R Duracco). 6-1: 2. Dark Mightingale 13-8 fay; 3. Markers \$Mors 7-1; 7 rat. 5. 11. (CSR). 7 Forster. Downtoni. Tothe: £6.40; £4.30. £2.10. DF: £5.90. CSF: £15.13.

4.16: 1. CARPRIDIFF MOLI (I. Settern). 14-1; 2. Pother's Gale event \$m; 3. June Linding 14-1; 2. Pother's Gale event \$m; 3. June Linding 15-10. 11. 11. 11. (CSR). 20. £110. £5.70. DF: £1110. CSF: £28.48. Tox: £137.50.

Place 6: £211.35. Place 3: £64.71.

\$137.50, Piecepet: £319.80, Quadpot: £38.20, Piece 6: £211.35, Piece 5: £84.71, REDCAR

1.85: 1. EPIC STAND IF Lynch) 8-1; 2. Double Expresses 5-2 for; 3. Custics Burning 10-1.18 ran. 1.1% (Mrs.) Ramedon, Inlino. Tota: £8.60; £2.60, £1.30, £2.10, £2.40, £7.60; £8.620, £8.51.22, Treast: £206.69, Tro: £199.80, 2.05; 1. TAYSEER (W.Ryon) 4-1; 2. Ply To The Stars 3-1 for; 3. Russian Ruser 10-

3.36: 3. CRETAM GET IT C McLaughan.
14-1; 2. Ther 16-1; 3. Deuve 12-1: 4. Select
Deprese 10-1, 25 mar. 7-1 for Pade Blanco
(Shi). Shi-hd, Yu. (N. Latimoden, Wohershimpton). Toke: £29-10; £4-40, £3-40.
4.70, £2-70. DF: £290.50. CSF: £23-0.48.
Incast £2-613. 78. Tric: £1, 752-50 ipod of
£1,777-23 to Newton Aboot: £25 inday. MSt.
Palecegate Touch.
4.05: 1. PALACEGATE JACK U Carroll.

1.26: 1. CHICKAMPICKA (G Bradley) 7-4 lay 2. Ahove The Cit 33-1; 3. Steast Lord 25-1.15 ren. 7, 6. (B Paling) 1.00x £2.80. £180, £6.10, £2.00. DF: £59.60. CSF: £54.98. Tric: £188.20 topol of £209.86 to Newton Abbot 2.25 today), NR: Hay Dance. 1.56: 1. BRAZIL OR BUST (M Dayer) 5-2; 2. Singsby 9-4 fer; 3. Signer Ren 5-1. 6 ma., nk. 19. (P. Webbet). Tobe: £4.40, £1.40, £1.20, £1.70. DF: £7.80. CSF: £9.04, 7nc £29.10. Non Renner Amenoc. 2.25: 1. ROSEHALL (G Haymr) 33-1; 2. Wanstond 4-1; 3. Carlello 7-2, 9 ma., 7-4 hay Daceb. nk; 2. (Ahor 7 Phongrut, Teber 587.50; £21.40, £1.50, £1.50. DF: £174.70. CSF: £155.18. Tro: £77.90.

Mercury SmartCall You don't have to be a genius to see how much you'd save.

vieros: C Reeks (Frome).

**Towers**' chance to progress Basketball

London Towers must capitalise on the absence of Verona's lead-ing scorer Mike Iuzzolino at Wembley Court tonight to press their claims for a top-four finish in their European Cup group and a place in the knock-out stage. London suffered two defeats their first five games, but a weakened Verona are ideal opponents to begin the second half of their fixtures. Iuzzolino, the former Dallas Maverick, was in-

League fixture. Towers lost 76-48 against NATIONAL CUP Quarter-firelet Friday 15 November: Steffeld v Lelosser, London Towers v

Share the ma

OLD TRAFFORD'S NEW ERA

ESTER URITED'S FULL RECORD UNDER FERGUSON

EC - R2

UEFA - R1

227,000

750,000 450,000

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kezmisery isi Mi

£150,000

£150,000

£750,000

£50,000.

RANSFERS IN

850,000

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500,000

1.200.000

3,600,000

- 200.000

2,300,000

FOR £270,000

MAJOR TRANSFERS OUT.

right fi

FOOTBALL: The Manchester United manager today celebrates a decade in charge at Old Trafford. Glenn Moore spoke to him

# Ferguson focused on the next 10 years

angered their manager most.

He's gone on too long, he's

one caller's contribution to a radio phone-in. Fortunately for the speaker's safety he was not within reach of Alex Ferguson at the time. The sentiment was had enough, the emparison would have produced an explosion worthy of last night's 20th. tirework displays.

Don't compare me with that woman," he once scolded a reporter who had noted that. like Thatcher, he needed only a few hours' sleep. Ferguson's socialism runs deep. His recent appearance with Tony Blair at the Labour Party Conference was not a stunt - not for Fer-

Even so, it was impossible not to think of Maggie when Ferguson said, when we met a few days ago, that "I can take another IO covery was on the way. But in years. I have no thoughts of 1989 it had looked as if Ferguretiring". Remember Thatcher proclaiming, upon her 10th an-niversary: "I shall go on, and on, and on," Within a way about on the man for the join. Having finished 11th the previ-ous season, Ferguson had signed and on"? Within a year she was five players including Paul Ince

out. Could the same fate befall today celebrates 10 years at the asked, "did Fergie The Trafford? The widespread joy at United's re- the rope" is how slump would suggest he divides the country just as much as she did. The reaction

bemuses Ferguson. "Why do first time, had turned against him. people hate us?" he said. "They never hated Liverpool. Last Monday morning I was listening to the news on Five Live and the guy says: 'What a weekend I had. I nearly crashed my car in delight when I heard the news - United losing six goals. Brilliant.'

"I laughed at it. Then I thought: 'What kind of message is that from the BBC news? It's right to hate United?.. Kids could be listening."

Ferguson then conceded that the omnipresence of Manchester United plc "has something to do with it". "We're a threat to the nation," he added with sudden relish. "Public enemy No 1. Next there'll be posters of Kitchener saying Your Country
Needs You To Rid England Of
Kidd, then youth coach, now Manchester United.

It was typical Ferguson, turn defensive, reflective, passionate and humorous. It is, after the initial mutual wariness and the element which normally comes out on top is passion.

average talent to two seasons times - "an injustice every one of League games. them" - but was still top scorer. "There is a

In management it has driven mocking comments that him to create two teams which have been directed to- have achieved success without wards Manchester United these sacrificing style. He spent eight last few weeks, one would have years at Aberdeen, by far the most successful in their history. Then, in November 1986, Marlike Maggie Thatcher, was tin Edwards, the United chairman, contacted him. Nottingham Forest were top. Newcastle were bottom and that weekend's North-east derby was in the Third Division, where Middles-brough were playing Darlington. More to the point, United were

> "I could not see myself being here a decade," Ferguson said.
> "I did not think I would ever spend as long again at one club. My job when coming here was to win the League, that was my priority. I could not understand how United had gone so long - it was the 20th year - not winning it. I remember telling the press: 'I don't want it to go to 25 years' ... I regretted say-

ing that five years later." By then, however, the reson was not the man for the joh.

"How," a reporter 5-1 at Manchester City. point was a Defeel?" "Pass me cember home defeat by Crystal Palace, who had earlier lost felt. "Wonderful" 9-0 at Anfield. Ferguson had dropped Hugh-es and the crowd, for the

As he drove away from Old Trafford, Darren, his son, suggested he quit. When they got home the telephone rang - United had been drawn away to Forest in the FA Cup third round. "How," a reporter wanted to know, "did Fergie feel?".

is what I said'

"Pass me the rope' is what i thought, 'wonderful' is what I said." Ferguson said. "I had begun to analyse myself. I thought: My team selection's good, my training and preparation's right, motivation fine, handling the press OK.' Yet we went eight matches without winning.

"I was not going out at night time. I was too depressed. At weekends, Archie [Knox, his assistant] would say 'Come out'. I'd say no. I was doing a bit of

United went on to beat Forest and, five months later, Crysis conquered, an engaging mix, tal Palace at Wembley. Ferguson was on his way. "Winning the omes out on top is passion. Cup showed me exactly what That emotion is channelled in was wrong with this club. The two directions - football and way the atmosphere built up as winning. As a player it lifted an each round came along - the success was based on cup runs. playing centre-forward with his The supporters were waiting for boyhood heroes. Rangers. In them rather than League wins. that time he was sent off seven Now they get involved in



Ferguson with the fruits of one of his three Premiership triumphs at United

first came, a 'they've lost the League again' thing. Now there

Too much, one might feel. Yesterday, Five Live's morning phone-in was devoted to "Manchester United's crisis". On Six-O-Six a woman complained she had not bought an Old Trafford season ticket to see United lose.

United fans believe Ferguson has outstayed his welcome. They look at the youth system, the new training facility at The Cliff, the way all the first team, bar Eric Cantona, have signed contracts into the next century.

"What has happened in the frustrated atmosphere when I last weeks is why you have 10 years here," Ferguson said. Steve Bruce for last May's final, make the same decision. It was "You prepare to ensure you reand, hardest of all, Jim Leighton the right football decision but it cover from that."

Ferguson's longevity is remarkable. Joe Kinnear, at four years eight months, is the next longest serving Premiership manager. Only Dario Gradi (Crewe) and John Rudge (Port Vale) exceed his tenure outside To be fair, few long-standing the Premiership. "To be successful you have to understand you cannot be everybody's cup of tea. You can only pick 11 players. I don't emoy that bit but I never let it worry me. You're doing it for the team."

and, hardest of all, Jim Leighton the right football decision but it from the 1990 final replay.

Ferguson says the decison whether to keep Eric Cantona life. The easy decision was to - "1 could not see him surviving here" - was the hardest, but the way he talks about Leighton betrays him. Leighton had been his keeper at Aberdeen, Ferguson had brought him down to Old Trafford.

Ask him about that decision and there is a long pause, a very long pause. Then he says: "It really crushed Jim. It's still going on. Jim took it badly, but it was the right decision. Yet, if

the 1994 FA Cup final, omit affect Jim I don't think I would must have been the pasta." wrecked his career and cost him two years of his footballing play him, the hard decision won us the Cup.

It was a salutary lesson. Ferguson is a father figure to Uni-ted's young players, but he keeps his distance. "You have to be close, but not too close. I have a game of cards on the bus, I enjoy that, a bit of laughter, but I never go out for a meal. The one time we did it we lost the League. We had three games in six days

many veterans in the squad.

Tenuous as the argument

seemed, Ferguson said only last.

week that the difference be-

tween him and Atkinson was that

him leave Bryan Robson out of 1 knew then the way it would an Italian. We lost them all. It him that last rung in the We have been talking in the there with Sir Matt Bushy.

privacy of the directors' room at There is a discreet bar and an impressive honours board. Among the plaques and scroll is an incongruous one, from Uefa, congratulating United on their "contribution" to the success of the 1994-95 Champions' League. You may recall their "contribution" ended in failure at the hands of Barcelona,

Gothenburg and Galatasaray. Europe brought Maggie down; it may yet do the same

He may not be team manage Old Trafford. It is all soft up-holstery and deep pile carpet. at Old Trafford, probably alongside Kidd or Robson as a more hands-on director of football than Kenny Dalglish ever was Ferguson does not envisage retirement. "That's the problem with this country." he says, "People have to retire at 65. That

should be against the law." An epitaph? "People who know their football have admired what we've done. Even Liverpool supporters recognise we have tried to do it the right way. We have played good football."

# as his predecessor is unexpectedly 'promoted'

That strength of mind saw

"It's bloody tough being a of dripping jewellery or Armani legend," Ron Atkinson decreed during his reign as manager of towel after one of the five-a-side Manchester United. Amid a welter of one-liners which sustained many a scribe for the best part of two decades, its blend of swagger and self-mockery made it the quintessential "Big Ron"

with his sharp wit, garish dress sense and liking for champagne. Atkinson scemed easy to pigeonhole as a kind of sporting spiv, a Medallion Man among managers. Yet invariably when he nttered such quotes, the tongue was so firmly in check that it was practically poking through.

Midkinds football, this reporter's some portrayed him as. mental image of Atkinson is not

games he would not conclude until his team were winning, tearing into a chicken lunch while ing what he likes best: chewing the fat about football.

The discrepancy between the popular image and the more serious side of his personality has led Gordon Strachan, who now succeeds him as manager of Coventry, to describe Atkinson as "the most misunderstood man in football". That may be stretching the point, for there is no doubt that he cut an opulent figure, even if he was never the Moreover, as one who covers one-dimensional character

Strachan also hailed his

mentor as "the last of the character managers". However unfair that may be on Jim Smith, Dave Bassett, Joe Kinnear et al, Atkinson's "promotion" to director of football means the profession is diminished much as it was after Shankly, Clough, Docherty, Allison and Waddington named their last side.

It was 22 years ago this month with Oxford United took charge of Fourth Division Cambridge. They were on their way to a second successive promotion, when West Bromwich Albion moved to install him as Ronnie Allen's successor in 1978. Atkinson's flamhoyant approach transformed the club.

At a time when myths about the

Phil Shaw reviews the colourful career of Ron Atkinson, an old style manager

"bottle" of black footballers abounded, he had three in arguably the most attractive and effective of all his teams: Brendan Batson, Laurie Cunningham and Cyrille Regis. Albion came third in the old First Division, prompting United to have him to Old Trafford in 1981.

After going back to Albion for Bryan Robson and Remi Moses for £2.5m, the onus was on Atkinson to restore the cham-pionship to United. In 1985, after further heavy spending. they took 41 of the first 45 points, only to fall away to fourth after Robson and Strachan suffered long-term injuries.

Two FA Cups were not enough to prevent his making way for Alex Ferguson 10 years ago today. Characteristically, Atkinson laughed off his demise: "I've had to swap my Merc for a BMW, I'm down to my last 40 suits and I'm drinking non-vintage champagne."

A return to West Brom was short-lived, his defection at Atletico Madrid provoking bitterness and legal action. In Spain he lasted 96 days before falling foul of that serial sacker, Jesus Gil. Sheffield Wednesday offered the chance of rehabili-

relegation in his first full season. Wednesday not only came talent, whereas his predecessor liked to buy the finished article. Coventry enticed him back in straight back up, but won the League Cup - against Man-chester United - before Atkin-Pebruary last year. His sense of humour was intact - "My missus son abandoned them for Aston reckons if people don't recognise

me in the street, I go back and Villa in 1991. The pattern at Villa Park became familiar: foottell them who I am," he said on ball that was pleasing on the eye day one - as was his appetite for big transfer deals. He spent and brought League Cup success, £15.6m on players, eight of whom cost a modestly supported but Premiership results fell short of Doug Ellis's expectations. Atkinson's dismissal in late club seven-figure sums. 1994 - months after Villa's Wem-His purist principles had also bley triumph - hurt him badly. Ellis claimed there were too

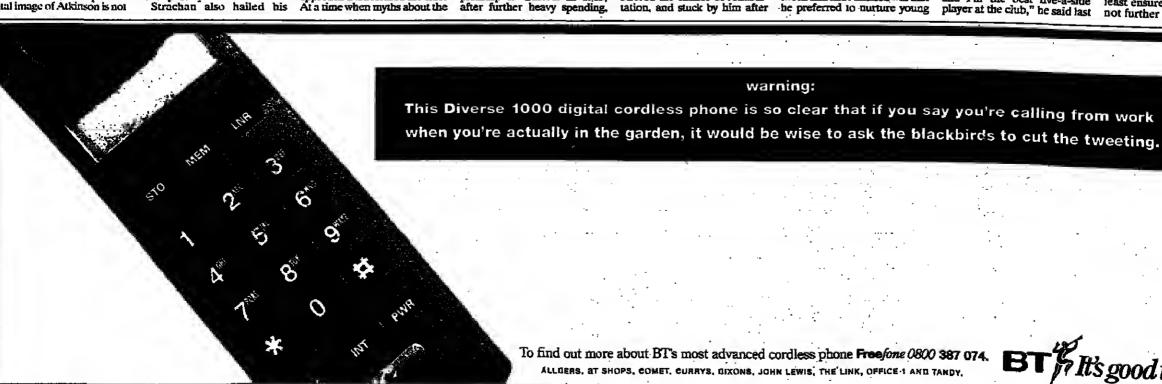
survived, though at times Coventry looked as if they would benefit from an equal measure of pragmatism. They won only 14 out of 63 League games under Atkinson. "I'm 56 and I'm the best five-a-side player at the chub," he said last



Atkinson: His quips blende ragger and self-mocks

year, adding: "Mind you, that's probably why we are down at the bottom." The change will at least ensure that the legend is not further tarnished.

It's good to talk



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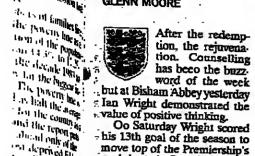
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Oo Saturday Wright scored - his 13th goal of the season to move top of the Premiership's goal charts; in Georgia next Saturday he could make his first England appearance for two years. On Sunday he was 33 truly an icon for the spreadingwaist generation.
"Not bad for an old 'un," he

agreed after training. Wright part his revival down to more sleep (going to bed at 10.30 rather than falling asleep in front of the television after midnight), a better diet (oo spreading waist for him), and Arsenal's new Gallic influence. Listening to him, though, his secret appeared to be pure desire.

"I feel I can do anything I want to do as long as my mind is right and I am feeling good about myself. There is oo obstacle anyone can put in front of me that can make me not want to play football and play well. My mind is right now, I feel really positive.

The change of management his young French team-mate. It be involved in that, I was so jeal has been instrumental in shaping Wright's new mood "Everybody knows it was not the best relationship," said Wright of his dealings with the former Arsenal manager Bruce Rioch. "I got so down I didn't even want to go in to training and that has never happened to me in 10 years in the game. I didn't want to be in all that pettiness.

There was tension, it is more relaxed now. There is a lot of banter now; before it was 'stop messing about, time for work. Arsenal players know when to work.

"Arsène Wenger is very relaxed. He does not say much during a session. He leaves it to the end, or stops it and has a word. The old sergeam-major thing, the fear factor and frightening kids into playing, is in the past. Managers like that are using methods from way before. The game has gone on.

"Arsène Wenger and Glenn Hoddle treat people like adnits and that gets the best out of them. It doesn't need to be done with a whip and a chair. People want to do well anyway. "Arsène Wenger emph

one-touch play and getting in the last third quickly - but with quality. It really helps me, I get "Patrick Vieira is doing really

has been a long time since Ar-senal had a midfield player who looks for the front man first and then looks for the options. Before I would make a run and the pass would go to the side first the combass was on keep-ing the ball. I would get Wright's England career is an example of what you can do with

statistics. His detractors would point out that, if you take away the four goals against San Mari-no, he has second once in 19 in-legistronals. His supporters would note that 19 of those were as substitute, he has only played 90 minutes for times, and he has only played consecutive

matches once.

He made his debut at 27 and thought his three had passed. "I thought his time had passed. T doing radio and I saw it like a fan because i thought it was gone for me. It was unbelievable, I was so miss it. Just see-ing the boys coming out and warming up. To be back amongst it is so great.

"This means everything to me. It is the highest level you can play at. I feel better about it now, I always felt I wanted to do so well it was killing me. Now it's brilliant, it's a bonns, I

wasn't expecting it.
"I felt the golden goal was



len Wright was glad to be back on England duty at Bisham Abbey

Taylor to take over at Orient

### Control Impression . **Brown accepts Ferguson blow**

The Scotland manager, Craig Brown, has insisted the latest withdrawal of Duncan Ferguson will not affect his World Cup

The Evertoo striker has pulled out of Sunday's qualifying match with Sweden with a calf injury which forced him to miss his club's I-I Premiership building:

draw with Coventry on Monday.

Ferguson's absence from the tie at Ibrox means the player will have missed 15 of the last 17 games his country has played. The £4m forward has made only two appearances since his transfer from Rangers two years ago

tria in Vienna in Angust, was his first involvement in 20 months.

Brown said: "It's not exactly a surprise to me. Duncan has missed so many games now, that I'm quite ambivalent about it. But he could have had more than 30 caps by now. If you are an international manager, you have to get used being let down by players. Obviously the striking position is one we are not well-endowed with, so it's disappointing to lose Duncan."

Scotland will learn from Fifa; the governing body of the world game, tomorrow whether they be forced to replay the fixture, and will be told if captain Gary McAllister's one-match ban has been wiped out or not by the farcical episode in Tallin.

The Wales captain, Barry Home, is the latest injury casualty before Saturday's World Cop lifter against the Netherlands in Hindhoven. The 34-year-old Birmingham midfielder had to pull out because of a hamstring strain and his place has gifte to Board Rovers Marcus Browning. Their minager, Bobby Gould

Leyton Orient are to confirm the appointment of their former player Tommy Taylor as their nev manager winorrow after he walked our on Cambridge United to join the Brisbene Road side.

nionship qualifier against Geor-

gia in Batumi on Friday

Taylor, who took over at the Abbey Stadium club in May last Cambridge had refused to of-

way into that squad."

training on Monday

I'm having a last blast."

Dominic Matteo was feelis

Nathan Blake to injuries. Mark fear to extend his contract in August - un-

til after his meeting with Orient's chairman, Barry Hearn. And while Smart responded

fer of an 18-month deal with an option of a two-year extension, Taylor made it clear that it was too little, too late. "I would have accepted the offer if they had made it a week

ago because I didn't want to leave Cambridge, the players and the sampletters," Bylor said But this new offer only ame as a panic measure after they heard what I had been offered at Orient.

yesterday with an improved of-

I wasn't impressed by the

way it came about and I felt in the end I had to leave as a matter of principle, Taylor, a West Ham team-

mate of Holland in the Hammers' 1975 FA Cup final victory over Fulham, will finalise the details of his Orient contract today before putting pen to paper at the club he first joined 30 years ago on Thursday morning.

But he left behind him an angry Smart. "I worked hard overnight to get him the improved offer but in view of what he's said maybe it's better that he moves on," Smart said. "I had a long discussion with

Tommy, I felt he was unsure about the move and that it was maybe in his best interests to stay with us.

After he left I immediately got in touch with the other directors to reconsider our offer. but he'd made his decision within 20 minutes of speaking to me this morning.

While Taylor was set to arrive, there were three departures from Brisbane Road, with former vice-chairman Derek Weinrabe and fellow directors Harry Linney and Vince Marsh all resigning. Hearn hopes to bring oew faces in shortly.

### Somerset appoint Reeve as coach

Cricket

Dermot Reeve, the new craich at Somerset, is pledging to produce a fitter team for next seuson. The former Warwickshire captain believes his new county have the talent to achieve success, particularly with the Pakistan leg spioner, Mushtaq Ahmed, returning to team up with Andy Caddick.

Reeve, coolirmed as Sometset's new first team coach yesterday, said: "I want to brine in a more professional approach. while creating a relaxed enviconment which will encourage the players to produce their

"There is a lot of talent here and together with Colin Wells I shall be looking to maximise it. I am ready to give 100 per cent to the job and see it as a great new challenge.

The players will be given incentives to report back lifter than ever in the soring and then we shall try to build on that. "Fitness is savital in first-class

cricket these days, particularly for the bowlers. It has become something of an obsession with me. The 32-year-old Reeve was the most successful captain in

the county game in the 1996s. but had to step down at the beginning of last season because of a hip injury. In 1994 he led Warwickshire

to the unique treble of the Champiooship, Benson and Hedges Cup and the Sunday League. Among Reeve's first duties

will be to advise on strengthening Somerset's squad with winter signings and the appointmeot of a oew captain to succeed Andy Hayhurs who left the club at the end of the

Brian Lara will captain the West Indies for the first time in a limited-overs, day-night match against West Australian at the WACA Ground today, Lara will take over from the tour captain, Couriney Walsh, who will be rested for the second match of the tour.

### and has taken four years to earn are to get the points from the

Henman misery in Moscow

Britain's No 1, Tim Henman, suffered his third successive first-round defeat wheo he was beaten in three sets by Zimbabwe's Byron Black in the Kremlin Cup in Moscow yes-

Henman, who dropped three places to 28th in the latest world rankings issued this week, staged a spirited fightback after going down 6-2 in the first set. He won the second 6-3, but, in a disappointing end to the Oxford-based player's startling year on the Tour, Black proved too strong in the de-

cider, which he took 6-4. Wayne Ferreira, the top seed.

season-ending ATP Tour Championships when he crashed to defeat against Britain's Greg Rusedski in the opening round of the Stockholm Open.

The Canadian-born Ruseds ki, who has climbed one place in the world rankings this week from 54 to 53 after showing much-improved form of late. won Monday's match 6-3, 3-6,

"I was on top from the start," said Rusedski, pleased after winning against a top-10 player for the first time this year. The 23-year-old Britoo's powerful serve and volley kept

Ferreira oo the run and the South African made many unforced errors, but rallied to lost his chance to qualify for the win the second set.

Michael Schumacher has Damon Hill this year, is thou

his commitment to Ferrari.

### TODAY'S FIXTURES Football

Altrincium y Southwort (7.45)

Aftrictath y Southport (A-3)

URBOND LEAGUE Presider Division:
Knowsey v Bamber Bridge: Winstord v Colwyn Bey. First Divisione Droysiden v Congentr, Lincoln that v Fersiey Cettic.
ICS LEAGUE Gesedian Insurance Cap secand round: History Borough v Enfeld; Walton & Harsham v Grays (7.45).

ong round: Harrow Borough v Enfield; Walton & Harsham v Grays (7, 45).

The Martiel's League Cup First round: second leg: Festion (1) v Waymouth (4); Hassar (2) v Newport (6) W (3); St Leonards: Stancrot (2) v Hassar (3) v Waymouth (4); Hassar (2) v Newport (6) W (3); St Leonards: Stancrot (2) v Hassar (3) v Hassar (4); Factor (4); Hassar (2) v Hassar (3) v Hassar (4); St Leonards: Stancrot (2) v Hassar (3) v Hassar (4); St Leonards: Hassar (4); Hassar (4 MONTISERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE

Premier Division: Glasshoughton v North Fernity. President's Cup second round: Mahtov Main v Perlotette UNLET SUSSEX COUNTY LEASTE FIrst DIvision: Three Bridges v Heacehaven; White-hank v Hassocks. John O'Hern Leegue Cop second round: Mile Oak v Langvey (7.15). JEWISON WESSEX LEAGUE: Christoliuroli V Brockenhurst; Cowes y East Cowes; East-

EWSON EASTERN COUNTES LEAGUE Premier Divisions Bury Town v Morch (7.45); Gorleston v Wisbech (7.45); Soham SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE Promier Di-visions Endporty Mangasted, Les Philips Cup first road: Bernstaple y Tournon (7.45).

(7.45).
LEAGUE OF WINLES: Caemerion Town v Rhyl
(7.45); Carmerthen Town v Inter Cable-Tel
(7.45); Carmerthen Town v Inter Cashe-Tel
(7.45); Carmerthen (7.30); Elba
(7.40); Okenbran v Ton Pentire (7.40); Elba
(valve v Newtown (7.30); Filit Town v Carmaes
Bay (7.30); Holywell v Convey (7.30); Porthmadog v Abenetwyth (7.30).

POMTINS LEAGUE Premier Division: Solton v Stoke (7.0); Leads v Nooms Fot (Halifax Town FC, 7.0); Thermese v Laerpool (7.0). First Division: Assor Villa v Middlesbrough (Maksal FC, 7.0); Notes County v Blackpool (7.0); Port Valle v West Bron (7.0); Preston v Coverny (7.0). Second Divisions: Hal v Burnley (7.0); Stockport v Wrestam (6.45); York v Rotherhem (7.0); The Divisions: Bury v Scuritorpe (7.0); Chester v Rochdale (7.0); Lincoln v Scarborough (7.0); Wigen v barlington (7.0). A/ON INSLIRANCE COMERNATION First Division: Bournemouth v Norsich (2.0); AVON MISSRANCE COMMAND BOW PASS. Levision: Bournemouth v Monafel (2.0); Brigiton v Missel (2.0); Control V Missel (2.0); Control Unit v Swinning (2.

TOUR MACTIFES: Adelaide (One-day): South Australia v England A; Perth (One-day): West-em Australia v West Indies.

RU UNDER-21 INTER DISTINCT CHAMPS PRI UMDER-21. RVIER DISH BUT CHARPY-CHARPER Edinburgh District v Stangow District for Munsyfetd, EUT; South of Scotland v Scot-tish Edins (or Munsyfetd). ANGLO-WELSH CUP Pool 1A: Neath v Secretar (7.15); Partypridd v Waspe (7.15). Pool 2A: Current v London Men (7.0). Pool 18: Harlequira v Lisnesh (7.15).

Baskethall 7UP TROPHY: Cristal Palace v Birmingham Bullets (BLO): Hewcastle Eagles v Manches-ter Gamts,

Other sports. NETRALL: Second Test (Nyack Centre, Mon-chester): England v Jamaica.

### Schumacher extends stay at Ferrari

Motor racing

demonstrated his faith in Ferrari by extending his contract with the Italian team to the end of 1999, writes Derick Allsop. The German, who surren-dered his world championship to to have agreed a deal worth £40m for the additional two seasons of

Negotiations will have covered also the identity of Schumacher's team-mate, and it is significant Ferrari's announcement yesterday con-firmed Eddie Irvine would be retained for next year and that the Ulsterman had an option

with the team for 1998. Above all, however, Schumacher must have been satisfied with the progress and potential at Maranello. As his earnings outside racing more than match his salary, he can well afford to indulge his sporting ambition and it is his aim to regain the ti-tle at the wheel of a Ferrari. Lola have confirmed that it

is returning to Formula One next season for the first time since 1993 after securing a four-year sponsorship deal with Mastercard. Possible drivers include the Brazilians Ricardo Rosset and Ricardo Zonta, a double winner in this year's For-

Mationaride Football Laugus First Division 1. Banday v Honach 2. Champer v Günsty 3. paugh v Southerd

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### **Despair** for Morgan on return home

Darren Morean, the Welsh man ranked No 9 in the world. arrived back in Britain yesterday to discover that his mother Cynthia had already died from cancer.

a Newport hospice.

suffered a relapse while her son was on World Cup duty. wanted to travel back earlier in

the week but staved to help nals on his mother's wish. get underway today. When the

land take on Canada.

# SPORTING DIGEST

Bengkok, where he had been playing in the Castrol-Honda World Cup, to be with his ailing mother. But less than 90 minutes into his flight to Heathrow news came through to the Thai capi-tal that she had already died in

Mrs Morgan had been fight-ng against cancer since 1988 but

On Thursday Thailand, after their 9-0 whitewash of the Unitd Arab Emirates, face the Welsh, Mark Bennett, who reached the semi-finals of the Grand Prix at Bournemouth 10 days ago, takes Morgan's place. POOLS FORECAST AND WEEKEND FIXTURES

hem. \*Postponed due to international culf-upit; Pools

Third Division

# Denver's veteran quarterback, John El-way, engineered his 35th career fourth-quarter comeback victory as the Broncos

Morgan returned from

The 30-year-old Morgao Wales qualify for the quarter-fi-

The remaining team took a break from the event yesterday before the knock-out stages competition resumes the second favourites, England, meet Anstralia and the Republic of Ire-

quarter compacts watery as the structure edged out the Oakland Raiders 22-21 on Monday night. Elway found a wide open Rod Smith streaking down the field and connected on a 49-yard touchdown strike with 4rnin 14sec remaining as the Broncos won their fifth in a row to raise their record to an AFC-best 8-1. NFL: Denver 22 Deldand 21.

NBA: Houston 75 Utah 72; Atlanta 94 Port-

Criciost
Ed Giddins, the first pricieter to be disciplined for failing a drugs test, will have his appeal against a 20-month ben heard at Lord's on Friday. Giddins, the 25-year-old England A fast bowler sacked by Sussex in the wake of the sounded, is to appear before a four-men cricket Council panel chaired by Desmond Perrott QC. A Test and County Chiclest Sound discipline committee benned Giddins from first-class cricket until April 1998 after rejecting in August his plea that a spiked drink was responsible for him testing positive duresponsible for him testing positive dures. responsible for him testing positive dur-ing Sussex's County Championship match against Kent at Tunbridge Wells

Football Derty have given up hope of signing the Portuguese striker Paulo Alves from Sporting Lisbon after falling to bring him to the Besebell Ground on loan.

The man in charge of ticket booths and gate personnel has been arrested in con-nection with the stadium stampede that killed 84 people in Gustermate City on 16 October World Cup before the 16 October World Cup before the scheduled start of the qualifying game between Guzterpala and Costa Rosa. There have been accusations that the game was oversold by as many as 10,000 tickets. A least two people are in custody for pedding bogus tickets. PREMIERSHIP AUCH FURST DEMISION SUSPENSIONS: Sendings Off it Resea (Man Util) 1 match from 9th Nov, it Brausgan (Botton) 1 match from 12th Nov. F. Sampson Podsmouth 1 match from 12th Nov. 1 Calles (Sendon) 1 match from 14th Nov. 2.1. Peasally Points: A Thompson (Botton) 3 matches from 12th Nov.

31. Beth v Helder. 32 Bromstove v Steverage 33 Famborough v Kettering

Colin Montgomerie and Ian Woosnam were just one stroke of the lead after the first round in the Johnnie Walker Su-per Tour in Taipei, Taiwan, yesterday. The top two Europeans both had four-un-

der-per rounds of 88, but three play-ers - South Africa's Emie Els, Lin Keng-chi of Taiwen and Park Nam-sin of Korea - went one better. Montgomerie of Korea -- went one better. Montgamerie recovered from an midifierent start to shoot four birdies in the back nine. Johanne WALKER SUPER TOUR (Tabel, Tahwan Firsh-round scores 67 L. Keng-ch flot; Pham-an IS Kort; E Da IS-h. 68 C Montgamera Scot; I Woomann (Web. 71 F Cases (Phil). 72 V Singh Fije. 75 C Payhol films). Jeght-man field only; second, third and fourth rounds to be played in Scoul, Alanile and Bangliok over the next like dines.

Hockey
ABNHA CLP Third round down Aldridge v Billinghant Aghthor v Cheero; Belearn Lecester v Hordon; Bedfood v Leyland Notion; Beshops Sportfool
v Stenney, Bushna's v Meschinheid, Brachcell v
Stenneyod; Cambrida v Meschinheid, Brachcell v
Stenneyod; Cambrida v Delsoury Greys; Dondistint v Bury St Edmonds; Eastcotts v Esing Culatifood v Metaming Harbona v Mintely BayParliamon Magness v Sunday; teardrain v Highsourt (passed v Shadelet, Leodin Ingre v Winteledor; Leephool v Southeinfoor); Lation Town v Loughbortings Stoogh v Morth Surfix; Sundamind Bedina v Southeinfoor); Lation Town v Loughbortings Stoogh v Morth Surfix; Sundamind Bedina v Southeinfoor); Morth Surfix; Sundamind Bedina v Southeinfoor); Sutton Canada Life v Envisati; Wellingt Castellan City v Femborough; West Wenny v Chelmafoot; Wifacraster v Engie; Winchasse Ha v Budge, Wolning v Newcostlo, Tes to be played

Ice hockey

1981: Los Angeles 4 Boston 4 (od; Denot 5 Hart-ford 2: Tampel Bay 5 NY Rangers 3; NY Islanders 4 Philadelphia 3.



Sailing

Rallying

The Italian Piero Liam and Britain's Col-in McRae strengthened Subaru's grip on the World Raily Manufacturers' Championship yesterday by extending their lead in the Catalumya Rally. Sub-aru lead Missubishi by 33 points in the title race and they look set to retain that advantage. Liatti opened up a 13-sec-ond lead on McRae after 10 stages and the Scot was a further 13-sec ahead of

the Scot was a further 1,35ec ahead of Beiglum's Fredde Lott.
CADALIMYA MALLY (Livet de Max, Opeln) Louding standings (after 10 stages): 2 P Loth (th Schot) Impress 7th 17th 186ec; 2 F Mohan (GB) Scharu Impress 4-13aec; 3 F Lott (lib) Toyota Oelica GT4 + 25 \* 48 Thio 1869 Ford Escent Coswerth +28: 5 T Makineri if the Messhah Lancer +52; 8 K Erisson (See Messhah Lancer +52; 8 K Erisson (See Messhah Lancer +52; 3 P Bernardin (Fri Ford Escent +1:52; 4 R Burns (GB) Messhah Lancer +2:12: 9 Corne; 150; Pensaki Megane +2:28; 3 O R Mederia iPori Toyota Cekca GT4 at 2:56.

Rugby Loague

Hull have made their chief elecutive, Stephen Ball, redundant as part of the club's management restructuring. Alan Ma-son, the Hull charmen, said yesterday: "We son, the Hull chammen, said yesterday; "We have asked Steve to commue to advise us on our grant applications and wish to publicly thank him for his major posture contributions over the past 18 months. Pans yesterday named Peter Mutholland, the former Western Reds boss, as their head coach for next season. The 42-year-old former Camerbury Bankstown player takes up his appointment in Jen-uary, but will travel to Pens later this morth to meet key players from the French competition and members of the

A high performance dinghy will be in-cluded in the 2000 Olympics following a vote by the council of the International Saling Federation at its annual general meeting in Brighton yesterday. The choice of dirighy and the exclusion of any easting class to make way for it will be the subject of intense debate and loobying before a final state is presented to the council on Finday. Jochen Schumann, the three-times Olympic gold medallist from Germany, Kong a Lei Shan Lee, winner of the first and last-ever saling gold for the colony in the windsurfer class at Savannah. The 1995 winner, Russell Courts, received the Degas achievement award for this year's clean sweep on the match rac-ing circuit.

Tony Bullimore was back in Les Sables the world race to repair his newly-in stated, more powerful autopilor, but ex-pected to be back at sea overnight, isabelle Autossier, of France, leads with Britain's Pete Goss lying eighth.

Tonnis

BANK OF THE WEST CLASSIC WOMEN'S TOURNAMEN'S TOURNAMEN'S CONTRACT, CAST SHEET, SHEET, BANK SHEET, CAST SHEET, SHEE

### TODAY'S NUMBER

51

he minutes that had elapsed before Shaun Cassidy made history by becoming rugby union's first tactical substituagainst South Africa A. Previously only replacements for injured players were allowed.

**HOW CAN I MAKE** the most of my savings and investments? TURN TO INDEPENDENT TABLOID PAGE 72

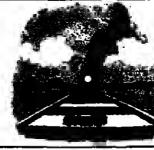
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UNITED HE STANDS

Alex Ferguson focused on the next 10 years, page 26



# De Glanville given England captaincy

Rugby Union CHRIS HEWETT

Blood is thicker than water. Jack Rowell, the England coach, went back to the bosom of his beloved Bath yesterday and named Phil de Glanville as his new national captain. If Lawrence Dallaglio, the red-hot favourite for the job, is suffering the sharp pangs of disappointment, imagine how Will Carling and Jeremy Guscott

When Carling gave up the captaincy at the end of last season's Five Nations' Championship, he insisted that he had every intention of prolonging his international career among the foot soldiers. Today, he faces a straight fight with his long-time partner Jeremy Guscott for the one available centre place against Italy nn 23 November.

Which is not in say that he will necessarily lose that battle; Carling's recent club form for Harlequins has been everything it should be and mure, and his enthusiasm for the rough and tumble of an unforgiving sport remains undiluted. But Guscott is in sensational nick and has the advantage of a lengthy club partnership with the new skipper. Unless Rowell gambles by playing either man nut nf position, be will have to leave one nf them out and whoever goes over the edge will make an aw-

fully big splash.
For De Glanville, selection is no longer an issue - not his own, at any rate. The 28-year-old Oxford Blue, born in Loughborough but forged in the fires of the most successful club nutfit in English rugby history, will be the first name on the team sheet until the end of the season and, if all goes well, far beyond.

"I'm confident I'll be at the next World Cup in 1999," he said vesterday, blinking through the dazzle nf a hundred flashbulbs. "Will Carling did fantastic things for English rugby, thrusting it into the forefront of the world game, and he remains a tremendnus player. But now is the time for someone new to put his stamp on the side, to bring a positive attitude towards the way we play at international

De Glanville has wurked closely with Rowell since 1990, when he inined Bath from Oxford. Natoriously, the coach's relationship with Carling bad more downs than ups; now that he has manneuvred a familiar and trusted face intn a position of such influence, Rowell can move ahead mure confidently with a radical restructuring of his side.

"Jack and I go back a long way." De Glanville said. "We can be straight with each other and we will be in the future. I'm sure. If something needs saying.
I'm the sort to say it. So is Jack.
of course, but I see myself as a



Monarch of all he surveys: Phil de Gianville gets a feel yesterday for standing tall at Twickenham, where he will lead England out on 23 November

governing body, and that is an important position to be in. There is an awful lot to sort out immediately, particularly off the pitch, and I want to see the Rugby Football Union sit down with the clubs and hammer out an agreement so that we can all

Will Carling graciously ap-plauded his successor as Eng-

land captain: "I am delighted for

Phil. He has been and will be an

excellent captain. I have al-

I realise the ramifications

from my point of view. There is

only one other centre position

available. But selection is now

out of my hands and I have been

ways said so," he said.

playing nkay."

So there. Like almost every nther member of the 43-strong England squad, De Glanville has yet to sign an RFU contract that would virtually guarantee him around £70,000 for this season's activities at international level. As the grey suits in the corridors of power are likely to discover sooner rather than lat-

and will not be frightened of making decisions. This is great

news for him and the club, and

efforts down the years. Phil

has got some great qualities, hut

inside that smooth exterior is

one very tough guy. I think that Phil should play alongside Jer-

ry [Guscott], and in doing that,

England will have the best two

however, he is unlikely tn need his international money to stave nff the bailiffs. Carling glamnrised the inb of England captain to such an extent during his eight years at the helm that De Glanville, who has already been snapped up by the agency that markets Anthea Turner, can ex- counterpart and the most exer, he is nnbody's pushover. pect commercial spin-offs worth perienced forward in the Eng-

captain. He is the best man for

the job," his Bath team-mate said.

the international players, and

has been knocking an the door

for some time. From my point

nf view, it would be nice to play

laglin] will be disappointed be-

cause he cannot help himself

sometimes believing what he

"I think that Lawrence [Dal-

alongside him for England.

reads in the press."

"He's got the respect of all

rector of rugby, John Hall, said: Glanville's new role. "I am very "Phil is a very strong character," pleased that Phil has been made

at least £200,000 a season and possibly a great deal more.

Rowell admitted yesterday that other names bad come under consideration for the top inb and that he had spoken at length to all the candidates. Dallaglio, the Wasps captain, and Jason Leonard, his Harlequins

Mike Catt said: "Phil has def-

initely shown his true colnurs,

spect of everyone. I think the

England players will know what

he is about. It has come at the

Jon Sleighthnime believes

tains his England right-wing lier, notwithstanding the fact that he wasn't first chnice ceo-

captain, and he will belp me if tre at the time,"

he can benefit personally from

de Glanville's presence if he re-

to play at his best again."

and I think be has got the re-

because of the political uncertainty off the field. We've had eight months to

threats in De Glanville, but the

reached his decision early and

bad nnly delayed revealing all

coach emphasised that he Lad

think about this and there were several outstanding candidates,

'Delighted' Carling quick to applaud appointment

I am there. Phil will give 110 per cent commitment". Brian Moore, England's most capped hooker, said: "It must mean that the England camp has made a decision about the right time for him after he was centre pairing. Now either Will injured, and he has come back Carling or Jeremy Guscott is not going to feature in the long-term plans coming up to the World Cup in 1999. I'd actually put my

mark down for Phil much ear-

lier, notwithstanding the fact

good enough to hold his place but who had the respect of his colleagues and possessed the ability to read a game and ad-just to whatever demands might arise. This is a big challenge for Phil but then, he has come through a very challenging period of captaincy at Bath where the weight of expectation is always heavy."

Rowell was due to name the England side to face Italy before today's training sessinn at Bisham Abbey. Tim Stimpson, the Newcastle full-back. Adedayo Adebayo, the Bath wing, and two young forwards, Phil Greening of Gloucester and Simon Shaw of Bristol, were all

in the frame for a first cap. Yesterday, the RFU announced that their long-term sponsors, Cellnet, had injected another "substantial six-figure sum" intn England's coffers. In return, the company will have their logo splashed across the national shirts throughout this season's seven-Test programme.
The hard centre, page 24

# DE GLANVILLE

England's new captain has two nicknames: "Blouse" (as in a big girl's..."), which he earned during early days at Bath be-cause of his frequent visits to the treatment table, and "Hollywood", because of his film-

Did his best to earn the firs nickname and lose the second by breaking his nose sev es in his left eyelid after fallin under the boots of the All Black.

Has progressed to the higher point in the English game de-spite having the middle name

ly: his wife, a math's teacher, is

Exotic names run in the family

Father, Derek sells scrummaging machines

Developed that Hollywood physique during long months of hard training as a 17-year-old while taking a year out in Aus-

Has grown up a lot since he worked for Cow & Gate, the baby food manufacturers

.and could now be a candidate for investigation by Agent Mulder of the X-files because of current lob as marketing consultant with Druid Systems Ltd

Kyran Bracken: the new captain

Jack's lad rather than a Jackthe lad he first came under Jack Rowell's wing whan he signed for Bath in 1990 while a student at Oxford

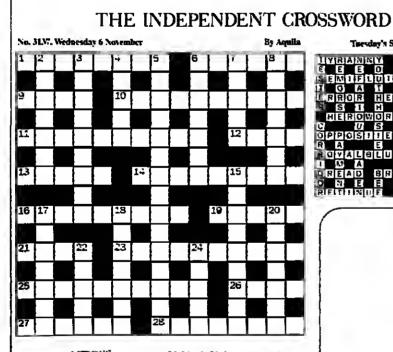
A team man he refused to lead Bath up to collect the Pilkington Cup in 1995 until injured regular captain John Hall had left his Twickenharn seat to lift the trophy -

Has single-handedly kept sportswear manufacturers in business by wearing out umpteen pairs of shorts while sitting on England's replacement bench 22 times

Prudish spectators may be forced to cover their ears under pressure of the ferocious half-time team talks he delivers to his charges at the first sign of slackness

Received news of the England captaincy while playing golf team-mate Sleightholme

### ceotres in Britain. Guscott also welcomed de



- Longing, in dungeon, to have calves covered? (4-4) 6 Road risk of ambush (b) 9 Housewife imprisoned in
- the Tirileries (4) 10 Number of horses stop with This leg-spasm (10) 11 Entertainers' telegraphed
- responses heard [3-6)
  12 Tropical plant approved by 13 A line-out inappropriate? 14 Novel plot in singular Con-
- servative policy (5.4) 16 Quiel tenant of Lincoln. possibly (9) 19 French composer of unlim- 7 ited treedom (5) 21 Dahlia, to Wooster, turns
- out to be a nut (4) 23 Rush commonly completed with care (10)
- 25 Verdi-Holst arrangement not lasting long (5-5) 26 t twice get the bird (4) 27 Small, ugly figures of international bankers (6)
- 2 New ballet movements in game for womeo [7] The wicked devit rose in a
- How Germans consume mest of French petrol? (7) Fourth or fifth, ideal break for musicians [7.8]

change [7]

6 Angry words in royal house Brute trapped by a hook, in the interior [5] Banking flap on a lire ex-

15 One may turn up the vol-

ume at work [9]

- a silent order (8) 17 Make coarse growly har-rumph, initially, in French
  - bers of meaningless drawines [7] 20 Joplin's style of Maigret mystery? (7) 22 Half of them odd, to drum
    - incessantly (5) 24 Charlotte's first date arranged with young soldier

18 Dali started with great oum-

cathedral? (7)

# **Coventry mishandle** Atkinson's switch

Footbali **PHIL SHAW** 

As baton hand overs go, it was on a par with the mess into which Britain's male sprinters got themselves at the Olympics. Roo Atkinson passed the managership of Coventry City on to Gordon Strachan yesterday. but took up his new post as director of football complaining that he was upset about the way

the change had been handled. Atkinson, at 57 the oldest manager in the Premiership. said soon after taking over at Highfield Road 21 months ago that Strachan would succeed him next summer. In the wake of Coventry's draw at Everton on Mooday, which left them third from bottom, the club confirmed they had brought for-

ward the 39-year-old assistant manager's appointment with the consent of both parties.

was leaked to a newspaper which left Atkinson angry. "It annoyed me that it was leaked w someone who is a member of our board of directors. I cannot name that person but I know whn it is. He has let down the club and the chairman," he said.

"I was so annoved that I was of a mind to quit, but the chairman persuaded me to stay. We wanted to make the transition smoothly and without fuss. Gordon Strachan can be assured that I will not be looking over his shnulder. My new role appeals to me and I intend to be very active."

Bryan Richardson, the Coventry chairman, earlier rebutted reports that Atkinson had been dismissed. "He was approached me at the end of of the team," he said.

not sacked at all. He came and last week in discuss the idea of Gordon taking over the running "All we've done is bring

fore. It was Ron's prigioal idea when Gordon came to us that there was this absolute and firm plan. It's in Gordon's contract and it's in Ron's that Gordnn would take over."

It is clear Coventry's parlnus position has prompted them effectively to end Atkinsoo's 22-year career as a League manager. Despite his lavish spending - £15.6m - the Sky Blues, who have been members nf the top flight since 1967, again face a fight against relegation. Strachan, who continues in

make camen appearances as a substitute, had been widely expected to succeed Howard Wilkinson as manager of Leeds. When it hecame clear that Wilkinson was not ready to move "upstairs", the former Scottish international threw in his lot with Atkinson, under whom he played for Manchester United during the 1980s.

# Sinclair to stay at Loftus Road

Trevor Sinclair yesterday brought a sudden stop to what was building up into the season's biggest transfer scramble when he withdrew his request and began negotiations for a new, improved contract with Queen's Park Rangers.

Stewart Houston had resigned himself to losing the £5m-rated winger after the 23year-old submitted a transfer request last month. The QPR manager viewed Sinclair's decision as the perfect signal to the Rangers fans that the club was

Premiership as any of their players and supporters. Sinclair's decision - it is un-

derstood that the club have effectively reached a compromise that he might be allowed to go if promotion is not achieved will be a hig blow for Spurs, Leeds and Blackburn. Sinclair, who was "delighted"

tn say he had withdrawn his transfer request "after long, frank and honest discussions' will play in Sunday's London derby with Crystal Palace. Cash-starved Nnttingham as committed to returning to the Forest are ready to sell one-time

record signing Bryan Roy after losing patience with the out-of-form Dutch international Manager Frank Clark paid £2.5m to Italian clun Foggia for the 26-year-old striker in August 1994 and Roy's partnership with Stan Collymore helped Forest clinch a Uefa Cup place. But his form dipped after

Collymore's departure. He disappointed last season with eight goals in 28 matches and has made the starting line-up only three times this season despite Forest's slide into the bottom two of the Premiership.

# Good-bye battery



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